

# THE GATEWAY

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**PLAYING DEFENCE** Dustin Stewart, vice president (finance and operations) of the ESS explains the reasoning behind the organization's support of market modifiers.

## Market modifiers get ESS support

SEAN STEELS  
Senior News Editor

In an open letter to the provincial minister of Advanced Education & Technology, the Engineering Students' Society at the University of Alberta has supported the implementation of tuition market modifiers to solve the \$59-million provincial deficit.

The letter is the first kind of public statement made by the ESS in at least three years, according to its board of directors, who spoke about the controversial decision at a town hall forum on Tuesday where many students condemned the statement.

"The faculty emailed the students saying they were going to hold an information session on market modifiers. It didn't say [the board of directors was] going to be making decisions on our behalf," said Steve Cecchini, an undergraduate engineer, referring to a previous town hall meeting on January 13 to discuss the dean of engineering's market modifier proposal.

The current proposal will see tuition rates climb from \$510.12 per year for first years to \$1,700 for fourth years with grandfathering.

"You can't sit here and say this is guaranteed to happen because it's not guaranteed to happen. You're giving that right to the government and guaranteeing that they will do this," Cecchini continued.

In response to the allegations of a lack of student consultation, the board cited student disinterest and the need to formulate a position quickly.

"We held a forum on January 13 [...] We could have held another forum, but the fact was, we wanted to deal with this as quickly and efficiently as possible. My gauge from that was that there were 20 students in the room," said ESS Vice President (External) Claire Smith, who drafted the position letter.

"When no one shows up to something like that, I think no one cares. And I'm sorry, but that is what I felt."

The letter was drafted by the ESS Board of Directors executive, approved by the board and included in the dean's proposal. Students also raised transparency issues with the letter's delivery, as minutes from the board's meetings dating from Fall 2009 were off the ESS website until February of this year. Also, board meeting times aren't currently posted online.

PLEASE SEE **ESS** ♦ PAGE 3

## Reactor shutdown may intensify medical isotope deficit

ALEXANDRIA ELDRIDGE  
News Staff

Canada's medical isotope shortage could be exacerbated in April when all five major international reactors will be shut down.

The Canadian National Research Universal Reactor and a reactor in the Netherlands together produce between 60 to 80 per cent of the world's supply of medical isotopes, and both are now being shut down simultaneously.

The NRU in Chalk River, Ontario was closed for repairs in May 2009 and will remain closed until April of this year. Since this closure, the supply of isotopes across Canada has been reduced, which has hit Eastern Canada the hardest.

Commercial supplier Covidien delivers isotopes to most of Western Canada. They rely more on output from the reactor in the Netherlands which has also been closed for scheduled maintenance since February.

The other three major reactors, in Belgium, South Africa, and France, will also be shut down for scheduled maintenance on March 17.

Medical isotopes are relied on to diagnose and treat diseases, including many types of cancer. The primary isotope used in diagnostic medicine is technetium-99m, a daughter product of molybdenum-99.

Douglas Abrams, a radiopharmacist at the University of Alberta Cross Cancer Institute and the president of the Canadian Society of Nuclear Medicine, said that the supply of technetium-99m will be sporadic.

"We will be down at some points in time to 10–15 per cent of our normal supply. So the effect on the patients will be such that we will be only 10–15 per cent of our normal patient load at that time."

However, Abrams said that the institution has been planning for this and has made provisions to ensure patients aren't overly affected.

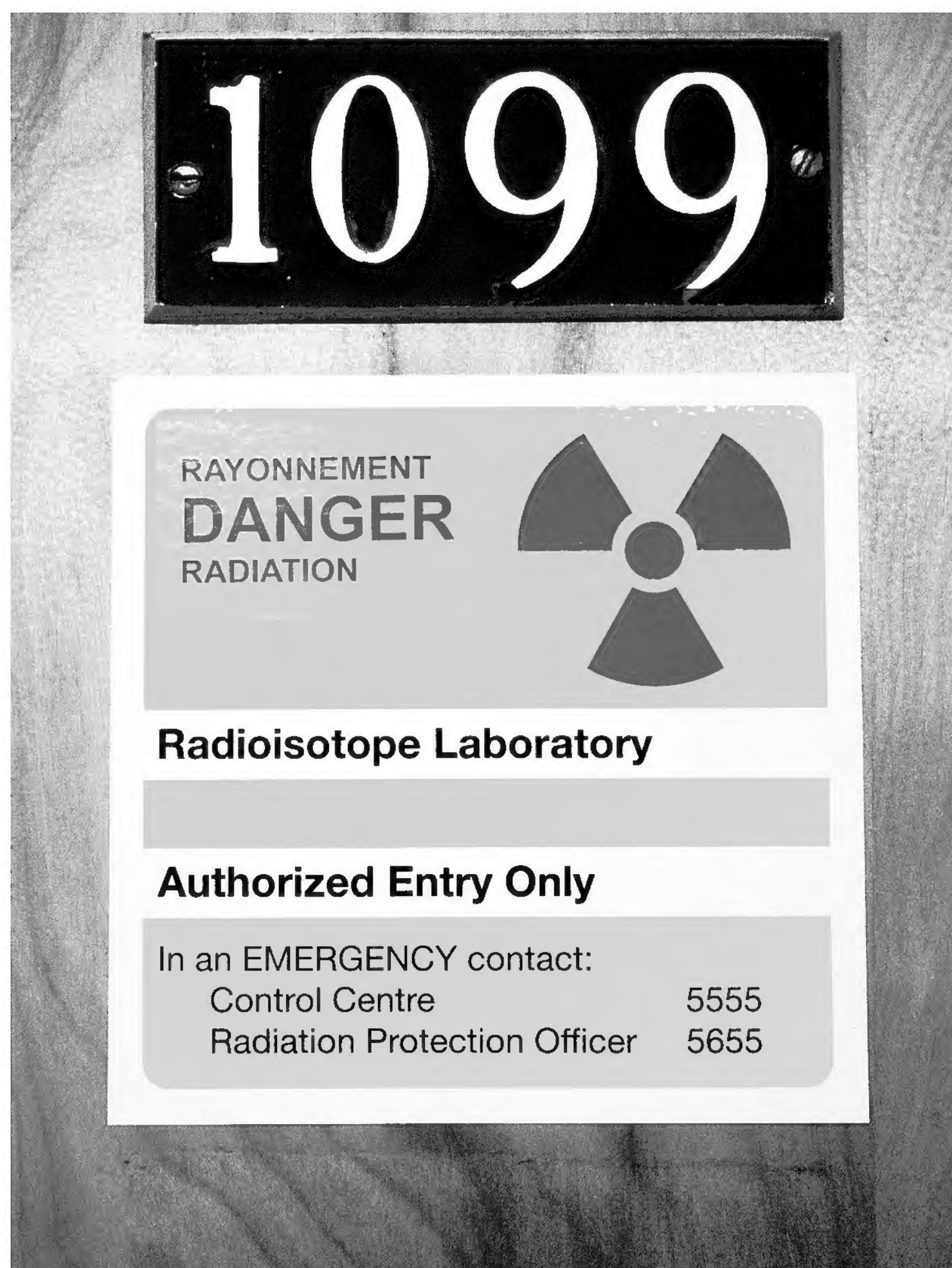
"The number of patients that are going to be impacted will be significantly less than the 85 per cent that it sounds like we won't be able to supply."

The CCI plans to ensure that as many patients as possible are admitted when isotopes are available.

"We're going to start doing clinics on a short-term basis on the weekend, and we extended hours and we will be extending hours even further during those times when we have a large supply, to cover more patients," Abrams explained.

All of the five major reactors are at least 45 years old, he said, so there are others working on a long-term solution to these shortages.

PLEASE SEE **REACTOR** ♦ PAGE 2



DAN MCKECHNIE

**RADIO-INACTIVE** Budgeting isotopes will help reduce patient wait times.



## Hip hop redux

In Part 1 of the *Gateway's* feature on hip-hop in Edmonton, Nick Frost traces the community's origins.

FEATURE, PAGES 10-11



## Headshot hiccups

Recent concerns over dangerous hits in the NHL have raised concerns about similar issues in CIS.

SPORTS, PAGE 15



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## colophon

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“

Based on the Gateway poll, I'll start working out in order to carry people across the bridge.

NICK DEHOD

Vice President (Student Life)

— on how he plans to get students to attend the March to the Legislature

## COUNCIL FORUM

Written by Simon Yackulic

*Students' Council meets every second Tuesday in the Council Chambers in University Hall at 6 p.m. Council meetings are open to all students. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 23, where free food will be provided for all attendees.**Recently, council has shed the typical fare of old wraps and has adopted a lovely spread of pizza, pop, cookies and a bowl of fruit provided for attendees. The pizza, while rather greasy, was meaty and filling — the cookies were sweet and decidedly average. Those who sampled the fruit bowl reported a satisfied belly ... in a word: delicious. So**if you're at all interested in student politics, swing by, fill your belly, and get your democracy on.*

## MARCHING

Vice President (Student Life) Nick Dehod reminded Council of the march on the Legislature that will be held today at noon and reiterated the importance of getting students out to show that the undergraduate population is concerned with tuition and the proposed \$550 mandatory non-instructional fee.

## WAITING FOR AN ANSWER

Board of Governors representative Steven Dollansky explained to Council that until the Minister of Advanced Education gets back to the Board of Governors concerning the mandatory non-instructional fee and the market modified tuition, the Board isn't prepared to pass the budget. The next Board of Governors meeting is

March 26, and Dollansky expects that there will be a budget presented at that meeting.

## QUESTION PERIOD

Vice President (External) Beverly Eastham was asked for her thoughts on the Throne Speech. Eastham reiterated her concern that lower student employment rates have made it harder for students to save for education, and encouraged interested parties to read her thoughts in the March 16 issue of the Gateway.

The Executives in attendance were also asked about their transitions in regards to the newly elected successors. They explained that they were waiting until "March Madness is done," to really get into transitioning. Vice President (Academic) Leah Trueblood also noted that her transition was going well, and that she was especially relieved to be

able to make a "list of things that are [vice president-elect James Eastham's] problem."

A concern was raised regarding the ice rink in quad. Eastham fielded this question as well, and explained that the University used to have an ice rink in quad during the winter and it seemed like a good idea when it was cold out to try for this year's Students' Union Centenary. Unfortunately, the weather got much too warm for the rink. Dehod added that they will probably try it again next year.

Trueblood was then asked about the faculty association letters for and against market modifiers. She explained that there were three letters of understanding: Medicine objected to them, Law was neutral, and Pharmacy fell somewhere in between. There were also two letters of support, one from the School of Business, and one from the Faculty of Engineering.

## Reactor proposals under consideration to remedy shortage

REACTOR ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Steve Littlejohn, vice president of pharmaceuticals for Covidien, said that a refurbished Polish reactor should help with the shortage.

"We've been able to bring on recently the Maria reactor, which has been completely refurbished within the last 15 years; so it's a relatively young reactor

and has a longer life ahead of it."

There are also two major proposals for new reactors in the United States.

"We've announced an agreement to collaborate with Babcock &amp; Wilcox on the construction of a new type of reactor technology, it's the Aqueous Homogenous Reactor," Littlejohn said.

Abrams also stated that there could

be some other Canadian proposals released in the future.

"Natural Resources Canada have put out a notice for people to come forward with solutions to the radioisotope problem," Abrams said.

However, it takes at least 5–10 years to build a new reactor, so in the meantime, Abrams said everyone across the

country will have to get through the latest shortage.

"We've known about this problem for months and so we have a fair number of contingency plans in place, so we're actually relatively confident that, although there will be a patient impact, it will be taken care of quite well."

## STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by  
Alexandria Eldridge and Sam BrooksAs you may be aware, there is a \$550 prize for best sign at the SU's march on the Legislature tomorrow.  
What do you think will make a winning sign?Caitlin Buckell  
Phys. Ed. IIIJustin Koks  
Chemical  
Engineering IIIPaul Blinov  
Arts VZoya Zaeem  
Science II

There's nothing cheaper than macaroni. What's left?

A giant can of Campbell's soup, because that's all I'm going to be eating if this goes through.

It would just be 550 loonies stuck on a sign and the sign would be lit on fire in protest because I'd rather burn my money than give them more.

Maybe "say no to nonsense fees." The fees aren't going to the students. The trickle-down effect is not in place from what I read about the fees.

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# U of A student receives \$21.5k for investigation of phantom pain

JONATHAN TAVES  
Deputy News Editor

When University of Alberta PhD student Patrick Stemkowski started his undergraduate pharmacology degree, he was eventually hoping to pursue a career in a very different field — music.

But after five years of playing in metal bands, and at the same time working as a lab technician to support his passion, Stemkowski went back to school for graduate studies.

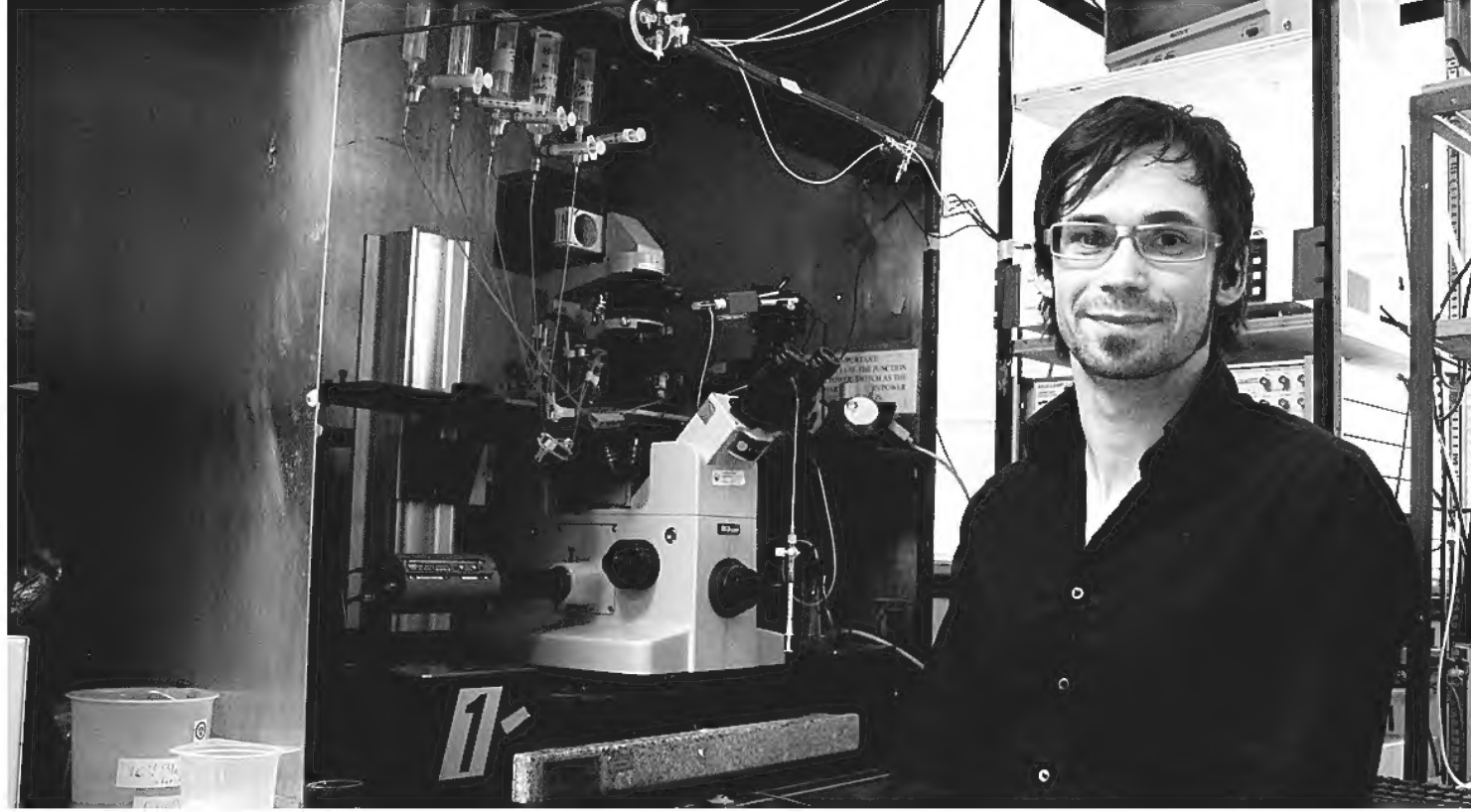
That decision has been a positive one, as he was recently awarded the prestigious \$21,500 Lionel E. McLeod Health Research Scholarship for his work on lingering pain that results from injury or disease.

“We’re interested in neuropathic pain, which is a pain that is a consequence of injury or trauma to the nervous system,” Stemkowski said. “When you have these traumatic episodes, that changes the sensitivity of [sensory nerves.] That begins because the brain and the central nervous system is plastic, it adapts to cues. This is why you get better at playing an instrument over time.”

The researcher still enjoys playing his guitar after coming home from the lab, and sees similarities with the recognition he’s getting for his work.

“It seems kind of like the same principles. If you’re getting awards or people are coming to your shows, they’re parallel worlds in my opinion,” he said. “[The award] is fantastic. It, to me, kind of validates that I should continue down this road, that maybe the choice to be in academics is working out.”

Stemkowski has received numerous other scholarships and awards for



DANIELLE JENSON

**NEURAL SCIENCE** Stemkowski thinks the source of neural pain is inflammation.

his insight into the body’s reaction to injury, which involves looking at the effect inflammatory response has on the nerves.

“Everything downstream from [inflammation caused by injury] starts to change, or has the potential to change [...] You can imagine the facilitation of the pain transmission in the end causes, in a lot of these injuries, in the absence of healing, the pain to be experienced inappropriately,” he explained, citing pain years after surgery, or phantom limbs after amputation as examples of this unnecessary pain.

“It’s lasting after the injury is healed, so it has no purpose.”

Stemkowski explained that it’s the first few days after an injury that is the key time period where the effects of inflammation on the nerves needs to be controlled.

“My goal is to apply inflammatory mediators to represent what we might see in some of these traumatic issues, where these inflammatory mediators are going up for a few days.”

He cultivates cells and then “recre-

ates pain in a dish” to see the electrical response of the nerves.

Stemkowski predicts that a more well-rounded approach to painkilling, rather than just drugs that dull the nerves, can prevent neuropathic pain.

“In the end, if you extrapolate through therapeutic development, maybe we should be looking at drugs that manipulate the immune inflammatory response. A lot of drugs hit the nerves, they silence the nerves, but they come with side effects like depression,” he said. “There’s more specific therapies that could get in there and minimize the changes to the nerves and still allow proper tissue healing.”

The McLeod scholarship is awarded annually to students from the U of A, the University of British Columbia, and the University of Calgary.

The UBC’s recipient is looking at the metabolic side effects of antipsychotic drugs, and the U of C’s is researching how white blood cells infiltrate organs and cause tissue damage.

## CoSSS fee not supported

ESS ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“This is not a conventional position for a students’ association,” said Students’ Union Vice President (Academic) Leah Trueblood.

“The ESS is one of the U of A’s strongest and most effective university-level faculty associations. But it’s the role of the Students’ Union to represent all of the groups collectively, externally.”

Trueblood, who was consulted in the document’s formulation, distanced the SU from the decision.

“I feel that students have different opinions, but they’re not divided. At the end of the day, students want education to be accessible, and at the end of the day, we’re the ultimate authority on that, and we respectfully disagree with the Engineering Students’ Society,” she said.

The ESS denied functioning as a lobby group.

“We just wrote a position letter. [The ESS is] not a lobby group; We’re not going to go to Parliament,” Smith said.

Dustin Stewart, ESS vice president (finance and operations) explained that the decision was made to preserve the integrity of program quality, and came with several clauses stipulating that market modifiers only be applied under certain conditions. The document insists that market modifiers be allocated only to courses with more than three hours of lecture time, funds be split 60 and 40 per cent between the faculty and administration, respectively, a grandfathering process to accommodate already-registered

students, and a focus on the creation of merit-based scholarships.

Stewart also insisted that the ESS does not, and has not, advocated for tuition increases or the proposed Common Student Space, Sustainability and Security fee being debated as a solution to the University’s budget deficit.

“The ESS does not support the CoSSS fee because it is not a sustainable or controllable solution to this deficit. The CoSSS fee proposal [has] no mandatory consultation period,” he said.

“Market modifiers, what we’re discussing, are in no way tied to the CoSSS fee. It is a proactive, long-term solution to ensure that the Faculty of Engineering is able to maintain its world class reputation.”

Stewart explained that the increased cost of lab components for resource-intensive engineering labs, combined with the application of market modifiers to a course’s fee index units, students would see corresponding increases in the quality of their programs with a well-controlled and implemented market modifier scheme.

But the public declaration has still stirred conflict on campus, especially among those concerned with accessibility, explained Trueblood.

“Conventionally, student associations say access is foundational to quality. So quality is impossible if we’re not making sure that every qualified applicant who can be here is here, regardless of means. One of the converses of that is, if we don’t have quality education, why does it matter?”

## CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Jonathan Taves

### IN-CAMERA SESSION

On the evening of March 12, an employee of a business in SUB reported their belongings had been stolen from a back office. Campus 5-0 reviewed video footage of the area and observed a male stealing the employee’s belongings. The recording was forwarded to EPS.

### NOT FAST ENOUGH

Just before 10 a.m. on March 14, CSS responded to the report of a break-and-enter in progress in the basement of SUB. Edmonton Police were contacted and brought a K-9 unit. A police search of the area was conducted, but no suspect was located. Nothing was stolen from the area, but property damage was extensive.

### THE WATER’S WARM HERE

At noon on March 16, staff reported an unaffiliated male bathing himself in a washroom in the Phys. Ed. East building. Attending officers determined that the male had been previously trespassed and was placed under arrest for trespassing. The male was transported off campus.

### POPSHOVE-IT

On the evening of March 16, a Parking Services employee reported that he was shoved by a skateboarder after he asked them to leave. CSS attended and identified a group of four skateboarders. One of the males was issued a formal trespass notice and the others were verbally trespassed from the U of A.

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### FACT:

When tulips were first brought to the Netherlands in the 1630s, they became so sought after that the price of a single tulip bulb ballooned to about 10 times the annual salary of a skilled craftsman.

### FACT:

At *Gateway* news, we stay on top of economic trends, and predict the next bubble to be caused by a sudden spike in the demand for anthuriums.

## GATEWAY NEWS

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# New CASA report correlates accessibility, employment

SEAN STEELS  
Senior News Editor

According to a report released by the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, after reaching record highs over the past summer, student unemployment rates are beginning to have an impact on the ability of students to access higher education.

The report assembles over 20,000 survey responses from full-time undergraduate students across the country, and noted that almost one-third of students surveyed were only able to find part-time employment during the summer months to support their education.

Currently, Canada student loan assessments are ill-equipped to deal with complications like varying summer work commitments, explained Council of Alberta University Students Chair Beverly Eastham.

"When you enter into your Canada student loan, it doesn't actually matter how much you've been able to save throughout the summer months. It's automatically assumed you've saved \$2,336," Eastham said, referring to the student loan assessment procedure.

The report also noted that funding problems and low income were strongly associated with the likelihood to either reduce course load or drop out of studies entirely.

Eastham was quick to point out, however, that even dealing with potentially short-term problems like fluctuations in employment could be compensated for by adjustments to the student loans assessment procedure.

Currently, there are several ways the loan assessment procedure works against students, she continued. For example, at the level of federal loans, students owning vehicles worth more than \$5,000 count toward a reassessment and likely reduction of the loan — a policy not

practiced in Alberta's loan system.

Likewise, students are currently barred from earning more than \$50 a week while in school without a negative reassessment on their loan.

"It's all about basically how much you have and what you need and what are you assessed as needing. The whole process is pretty complex," she said.

But according to Eastham, the complexities should be easier for students to sort out, and the timeline on which student loans are processed leaves no excuse to not adapt the assessment system.

**"When you enter into your Canada student loan, it doesn't actually matter how much you've been able to save throughout the summer months. It's automatically assumed you've saved \$2,336."**

BEVERLY EASTHAM

VICE PRESIDENT (EXTERNAL), U OF A STUDENTS' UNION

The report suggests increasing allowable income from \$50 to \$100 could help ease the financial burden on students, but in the end, it will be up to the government to lift restrictions and give students some breathing room.

"The actual process of when a student submits their form to when they receive their loan — it's pretty timely, and the changes that we're asking for could be made quite quickly," she explained.

"It's not an administratively complicated thing. It would just require a little political will to open up the possibilities for students."

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AMY MINSKY/THE CONCORDIAN

**SUITING UP** Protesters on the streets of Montreal try to avoid arrest while raising awareness about police brutality.

# Montreal protest ends in arrests

AMY MINSKY  
The Concordian (Concordia University)

MONTREAL (CUP) — Havoc broke out within minutes of Montreal’s 14th annual anti-police brutality march on Monday, resulting in about 100 arrests.

Arresting large groups, riot police gathered people and cornered them against a wall. The two sides remained in a standoff for over an hour before the protesters were loaded into city buses and carted to a police station in the city’s east end.

Michael Connors, a Concordia University journalism student, was in a standoff against police with about 30 other people, at the corner of Hochelaga Street and Prefontaine Street.

“Basically none of the people in that group were the ones performing any of the protests,” Connors said from the police station. “It felt more like we were used as examples for the rest of the crowd. We were unlucky — in the wrong place at the wrong time.”

Connors, alongside everybody else

who was cuffed, searched, and led to one of three city buses, received a citation for being at an illegal assembly.

Crowds of demonstrators gathered outside the Pie-IX subway station in the east end of Montreal beginning around 5 p.m. on March 15.

Before leading the crowd south along Pie-IX Boulevard, organizers made an appeal to both the demonstrators and police to remain calm and peaceful.

The plea was quickly forgotten.

A smaller group of demonstrators, dressed head-to-toe in black clothing, were seen coming from a driveway on Pie-IX Boulevard, many reaching into garbage cans and under vehicles, grabbing full garbage and grocery bags.

Minutes later, after turning east onto Ontario Street, a BB gun shot was fired. Paintballs were shot as the marchers encountered the first group of police, dressed in full riot gear, with some on horseback.

As a warning, police tapped their billy clubs against the shields.

In response, firecrackers were launched at police, eventually

provoking a brawl that saw four or five men, alleged to be undercover cops, flee the pack of marchers.

Though organizers never revealed the path for the march, police seemed prepared, armed, and ready at almost every turn.

Demonstrators were chanting, “Fuck the police,” “Liberer nos camarades,” and calling police “assassins.”

Some said the police presence was too strong at the march, which has developed a reputation for becoming violent.

“Sometimes the police act violently towards protesters, and that’s unacceptable,” said Stefan Christoff, a social activist, musician, and journalist based in Montreal. “But really, what I think is important today is why so many people are protesting, and why those numbers are increasing every March 15.”

Approximately 200 people participated in the 1998 march, while last year’s event drew over 2,000.

Last year, over 220 people were arrested. Six police cruisers were vandalized, some of them being lit on fire.

# FNU denied federal funding renewal

ASHLEY GABOURY  
CUP Central Bureau Chief

WINNIPEG (CUP) — Even though the federal government refuses to reinstate millions of dollars in annual funding to the First Nations University of Canada, its Student Association president is saying she will continue to advocate for the survival of the school.

“I am in a place where I will not be defeated until the University shuts its doors. I will not stop fighting this fight. This university is too important to this country right now,” President Diane Adams said.

This comes after a meeting last week in Ottawa where Chuck Strahl, federal minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, was asked by stakeholders to reverse his previous decision and reinstate Regina-based FNU’s \$7.2 million in annual funding from the federal government.

The First Nations University of Canada has seen both its provincial and federal funding pulled, totalling over \$12 million, after allegations of misspending at the Regina-based institution surfaced earlier this year.

“It seems absurd to me — and I hope to most Canadians — that because of some administrative issues at the University, they’ve decided to

close it,” Adams said.

The Ottawa meeting was attended by Adams and Jim Turk, executive director of the Canadian Association of University Teachers; Chief Guy Lonechild of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations; and Randy Lundy, chair of the FNU faculty council.

**“I am in a place where I will not be defeated until the University shuts its doors. I will not stop fighting this fight.”**

**DIANE ADAMS**  
PRESIDENT, FIRST NATIONS UNIVERSITY

“The message that’s being sent to First Nations in Saskatchewan and Canada is that First Nations’ education is not a priority. We beg to differ,” Chief Lonechild said in a press conference after the meeting.

“We’re deeply disappointed because unless [Strahl] changes his decision, it will mean the end of the First Nations University,” Turk said.

According to Turk, necessary changes have been made at FNU including the dissolution of its previous board of governors and the establishment of a smaller, depoliticized board.

The school has seen problems in the past, and CAUT even censured the school in 2008 after numerous governance issues that had arisen.

“For the last five years, CAUT has been the most vocal critic of what has been going on at First Nations University,” Turk said.

The faculty association has asked professors and lecturers not to take jobs at the institution and not to participate in events it sponsored.

“They now have done everything that we and the government of Saskatchewan, and the faculty, and the students at First Nations University had called for,” he continued.

While Strahl announced the funding cut just days after changes were made to the University’s administration, Turk said he’s optimistic about the school’s future.

“At the end of the day, I think that there is a good chance that we can get the funding restored. I don’t think this government will want to bear the responsibility of destroying Canada’s only First Nations university,” he said.



## The Future of Alberta Politics: Danielle Smith

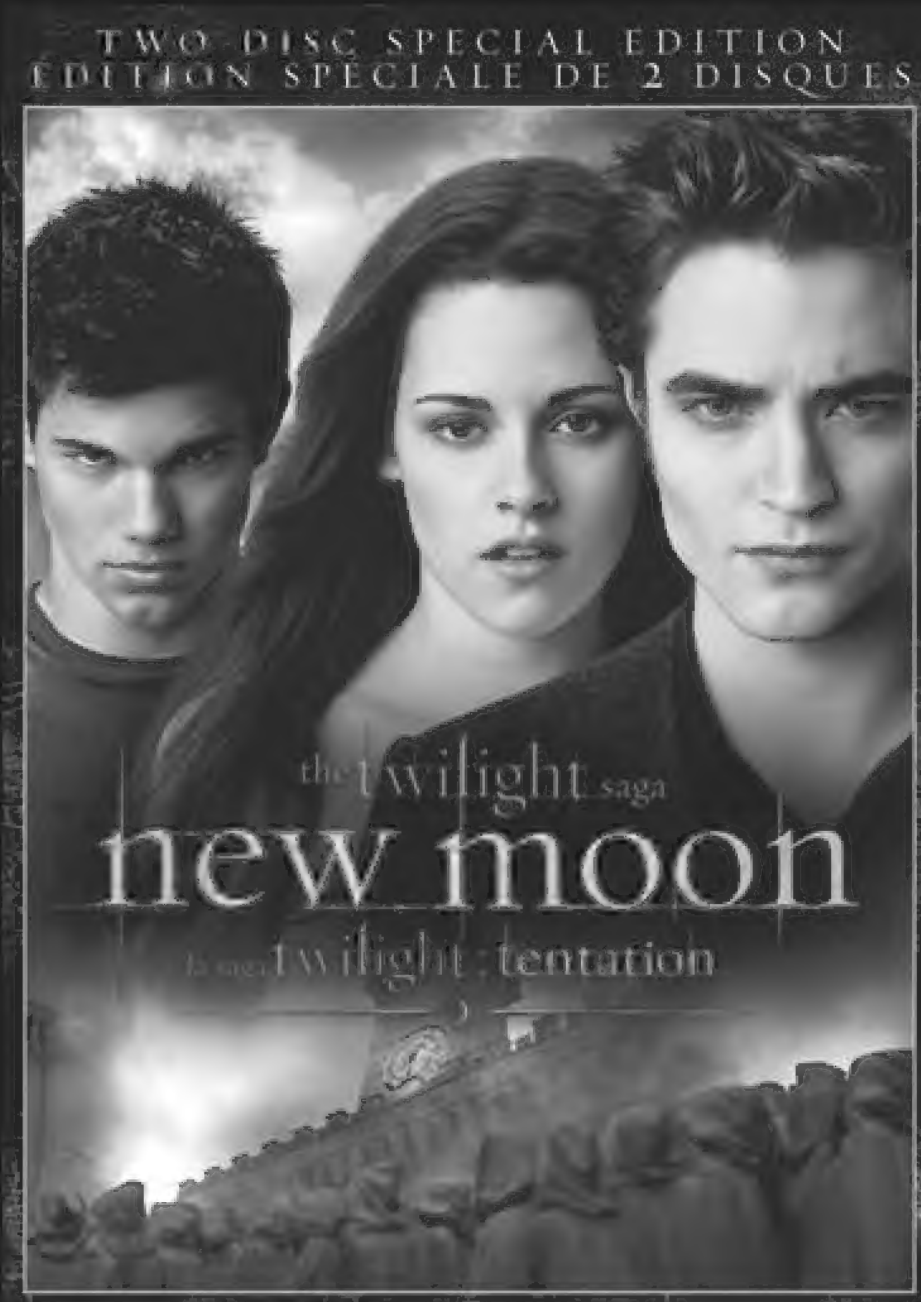
Monday, March 22nd  
12:00 - 1:30 PM

@

SUB Stage

**WILDROSE ALLIANCE** (Students’ Union Building)

# free stuff!

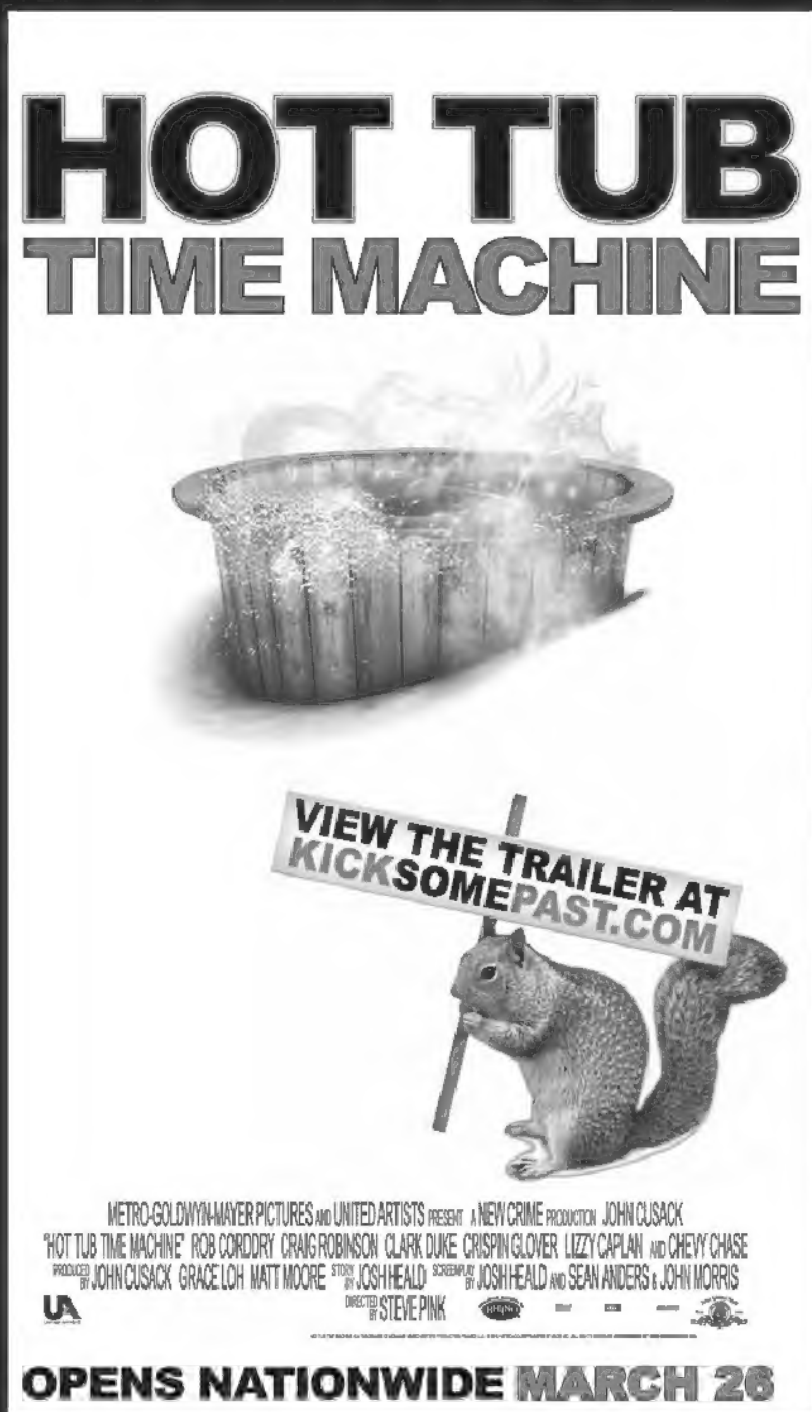


For the March 20th DVD and Blu-ray release of *The Twilight Saga: New Moon*, the Gateway is giving away this exciting prize pack:

*The Twilight Saga: New Moon* – 2 Disc Special Edition DVD  
Wolfpack: Bronson Pelletier autographed mini  
*The Twilight Saga: New Moon* Soundtrack  
*The Twilight Saga: New Moon* Book

To enter, email your name, address and phone number to [contests@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:contests@gateway.ualberta.ca) by 10:30 a.m. on Friday, March 19th. Winner will be selected randomly and receive their prize pack on Monday.

# free movie passes!



Subject to Classification. This film is intended for mature audiences. Attendance restricted to persons 18 years of age and older.

The Gateway is giving away double-guest passes to an advance screening of *Hot Tub Time Machine* on Wednesday, March 24th at 7 p.m. at Cineplex Odeon North Edmonton.

To receive a double-guest pass, come to the Gateway office (3-04 SUB) on Friday, March 19th, between 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. After that, any remaining passes will be available to those who email [contests@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:contests@gateway.ualberta.ca).



## Freedom of speech needs to be free

BACK IN JANUARY, THE IRISH GOVERNMENT celebrated the end of the first decade of the 21st century by plunging back into the dark ages, proposing an archaic decree that made blasphemy illegal suffocated Irish citizens' right to free speech.

The law, which was passed last year, but didn't come into effect until early 2010, made "publishing or uttering matter that is grossly abusive or insulting in relation to matters sacred by any religion, thereby intentionally causing outrage among a substantial number of adherents of that religion," punishable by a fine of up to €25,000. The law also stipulates the removal of blasphemous materials from the property of someone convicted of blasphemy.

Earlier this week, after a concerted campaign by atheist groups in Ireland, Irish justice minister Dermot Ahern announced that the prohibition could be deleted pending referendum results this Fall.

It's shameful that a secular government would ever let such outdated sentiments reach its consideration, much less actually be cemented into the constitution. But Ahern's proposal for its removal is an admirable reconsideration of a policy he once defended, and the Irish people would be wise to reject this egregious offence to freedom of speech now that they've been granted the opportunity.

By banning publication and dissemination of materials that "intentionally" cause outrage, those wishing to criticize or call to question practices of powerful groups would be silenced unfairly. If religions want to have any claim to authority in a society that claims to foster the free exchange of ideas, it must expect to be obligated to defend why its perspective is the right one.

Outlawing criticism of some views elevates them to a level of acceptance which isn't at all deserved. It implies that the conclusions reached by believers have some basis that is incontestable, and therefore must be respected. It's the responsibility of a democratic society to challenge these claims, and they shouldn't be inhibited by fear of offending a group of people that ascribe to such beliefs, no matter how baseless they might be.

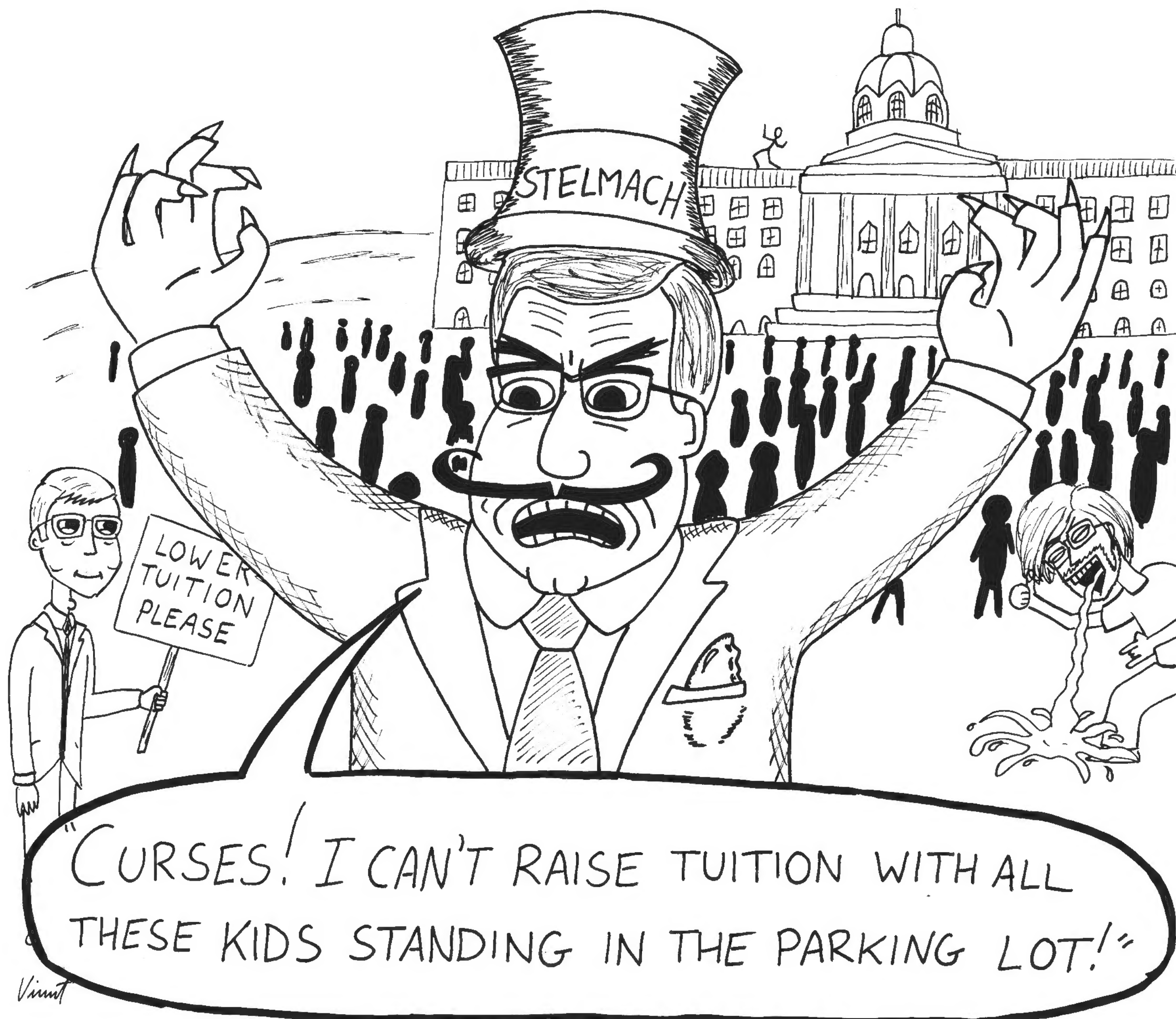
Religious zealots derive their authority from their interpretation of divine will, and a law that makes it illegal to speak out against the base belief system in turn makes it impossible to effectively challenge the authorities at the top. In a world where martyrdom in the form of suicide bombing, persecution of homosexual people, and condemnation of birth control are still widespread, adherents to such barbaric views should expect to be offended.

Some may claim that the above examples fall onto the "extremist" side of the continuum, but that differentiation can't apply in this case. A legally declared respect for some of the beliefs derived from religious texts is in effect a censorship over all opposition to religious views, even if they are on the fringes of their respective faiths. Because these leaders have so much power over so many people, it's only reasonable that their actions be watched and critiqued by outsiders.

There is no reasonable way to differentiate between which views can be challenged, and which ones not. There is also no reasonable argument as to why religious offence is any more injurious than opposition to political or other spiritual views. One could very well hold the ideals of free thought or atheism as being as sublime and transcendent as a religious person holds the concept of God, but banning materials that would offend such a sentiment is obviously absurd. There's no reason to believe the reverse action is any less preposterous.

Spirituality and religion are areas which are held by many people to be deeply personal, but the results of such views always manifest externally. Religious edicts are used to subjugate and persecute people in power struggles all over the world. It's time to denounce any undeserved respect or plausibility afforded to these extraordinary claims, and hopefully the Irish people will achieve this in autumn.

JONATHAN TAVES  
Deputy News Editor



ROSS VINCENT

## letters TO THE eds

### We're exactly what this campus needs

RE: "SU slates aren't as SUPA as candidates say" March 16

No one comes to Council meetings because: A. It's barely publicized; B. It intimidates people from participating because most people aren't familiar with its Roberts-Rules-of-Order format.

What's new and "progressive" about us is that we're six councillors fully dedicated to doing what some individual councillors already do: put in more hours outside of Council meetings to engage students. With six councillors united for this indisputable cause, garnering real and strong results are more guaranteed. Never before have councillors actually united and used their energy to engage students through new avenues. Some avenues of engaging students include delivering classroom speeches, regularly meeting up with executives of student groups and residence leaders, and heavily publicizing contact info of Arts Councillors (in addition to our town hall-styled meetings).

The only example we're setting for Council is this: councillors must unite together and pool their efforts into engaging students (with or without a slate). As long as we set a precedent for councillors having to work beyond Council meetings,

slates wouldn't be necessary in the future.

We agree on one thing. Conflict is absolutely vital to Council. However, your accusations of us six individuals having one voice is a categorical lie. The only thing that binds us six members is our dedication to doing more outside of Council meetings in engaging students. Besides that, we don't share anything else (let alone our "voices"). Amongst us six, we disagree on a lot of issues and have quite the colourful debates that'd better Council, not rob it of its already rich debates. Additionally, our collective campus experiences and involvement are extremely diverse.

PETROS KUSMU  
Arts Councillor

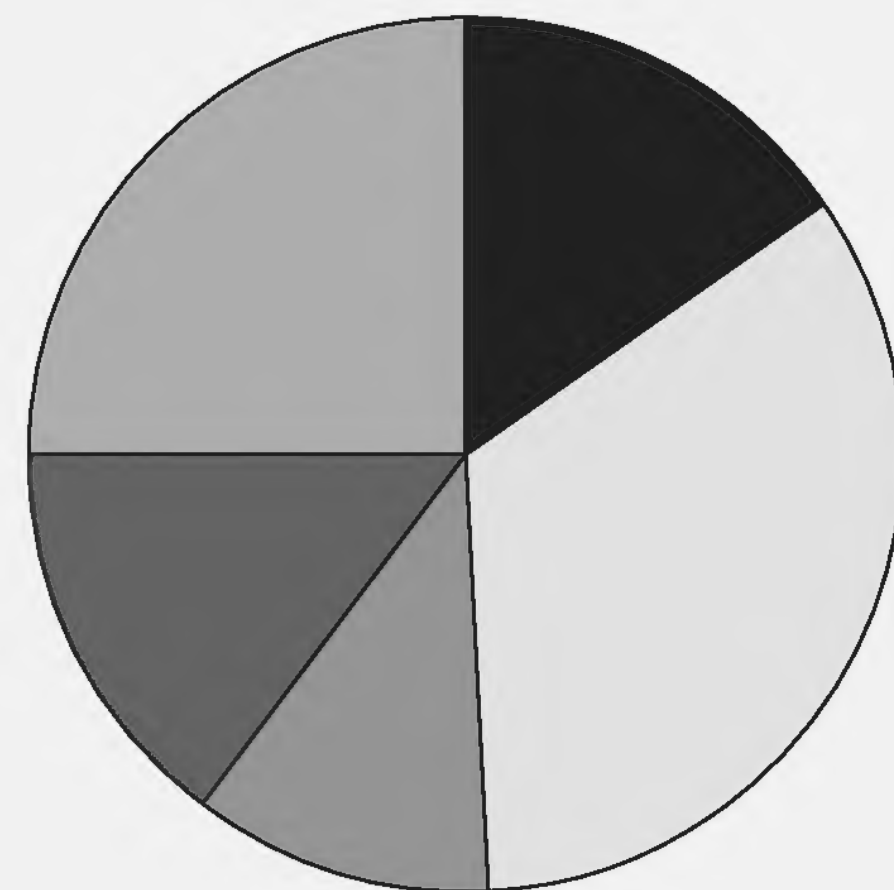
Letters to the editor should be sent to [letters@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:letters@gateway.ualberta.ca) or delivered via paper aeroplane to SUB 3-04. Website comments may occasionally be printed.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, delicious, nutritious, or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study, and student identification number to be considered for publication.

## readerpoll

"What would convince you to March to the Legislature today at noon?"



- Partial tuition waiving for attendees (25%)
- Ed Stelmach attending (15%)
- Good weather (11%)
- Nick Dehod carrying me on his shoulders (34%)
- Two words: more posters (15%)

TOTAL RESPONSES: 144

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

"Do you know anyone who should be reported under the 'Helping Individuals at Risk' policy?"

**vote online at [thegatewayonline.ca](http://thegatewayonline.ca)**



# NASA wasting time underwater

Discovery of life underneath Antarctic ice not the results we need to see



AARON  
YEO

Opening my favourite online news source the other day, a particularly interesting headline caught my eye: “NASA finds new creature.” The geek in me jumped up in excitement while the rest of me expressed rather indifferent interest. After all, NASA didn’t just discover “life,” which has been used to describe microorganisms and bacteria — they found a “creature.” However, after clicking through, I was horribly disappointed with what I saw. NASA did indeed find a small, orange creature, something similar to a shrimp. But the little critter wasn’t spotted in some faraway planet or on a moon of Saturn. Instead, it was found 600 feet below the ice in Antarctica.

I never really took much out of my geography classes, but I’m pretty sure that Antarctica is not on some distant planet. NASA was exploring under hundreds of meters below sea level ice on our very own Earth. For whatever reason, NASA was looking in the opposite direction. Someone really screwed up with their measurements. They need to get back out there, back into space, and do those amazing feats that made every boy in the ‘60s want to grow up to be an astronaut.

Astronauts were amazing men and women — strong, intelligent, and they got to go into freaking space. They were idolized by everyone, and their achievements made the human race proud. But today, NASA is just seen as a giant leech on the American federal budget, with little to no results to fuel fantasies of faraway worlds.

**If NASA wanted to know if complex life could exist on Mars, then they should go and check out the situation there, instead of making haphazard implications from a shrimp they found on Earth.**

It’s about time they discovered a creature in some remote celestial body. There’s always been a lot of talk about returning to the moon (or going there in the first place, for all you conspiracy nuts) but nothing has been said for sure. As a result, people have lost interest. Some hope is on the horizon, however, as the space shuttle program will see its last flights this year, to be replaced by a new spacecraft, hopefully less prone to abrupt explosions.

Some have proposed that the tiny crustacean-like creature didn’t actually live there but had swum in from a more habitable environment. NASA’s been a big spender,

and now it looks like they’re trying to make ends meet with children’s stories. Little Bobby Shrimpington, the Crustacean who Ran Away.

There are some supposed purposes to this research, like the claim that discovering creatures in the cold, dark and generally inhabitable waters suggests that similar organisms could potentially be found on other planets. But only potentially — if NASA wanted to know if complex life could exist on Mars, then they should go and check out the situation there, instead of making haphazard implications from a shrimp they found on Earth. That only leads to questions and pointless debate. If something is out there, it’s out there, and the only way we can know for sure is through proactive exploration. And it still doesn’t explain what NASA was doing with its multi-billion dollar budget, looking at dark, freezing water. Besides, Antarctica is definitely the wrong place to be for any reason. The only thing to do there is to look at snow, dig up some ice, and make Academy-Award-winning movies on penguins.

NASA belongs in space, launching satellites, studying asteroids, playing with radio waves, and all that other science stuff like watching out for apocalyptic meteors hurdling towards Earth. Just because the Russians have given up on their ambitions for the cosmos doesn’t mean the U.S. can just take their sweet time. It concerns us Canadians, too — we’re unusually proud of our robotic arms, but we need all the business we can get.

# Spontaneous advice from strangers shouldn’t be prematurely ignored



BRUCE  
CINNAMON

**“Most people, like you and I, have no strong desire to police a stranger’s actions. They simply don’t care enough to praise you for holding a door open or condemn you for shoving your *Gateway* between the seat cushions on the train, and there’s nothing really wrong with this kind of apathy.”**

Recently I was at the pool, getting my plastic pass card replaced. My wallet is a vicious beast that chews through whatever I put in there pretty quickly, but my last card was battered worse than most. It had split along two completely different planes and was blackened by the rubbed-off dye from the imitation leather. The interaction started well enough — the receptionist was very kind and helpful — but an interfering lifeguard felt compelled to offer his advice as well.

He informed me that this magnificent breakage was happening because I was sitting on my wallet, and that most people are wrong in doing so. He wasn’t acquainted with my particular wallet, so I forgave him for the assumption that my rump was the problem, but I didn’t really appreciate him telling me where I ought to literally stick it, especially since he clearly kept his in a fashionable fanny pack around his waist.

He proceeded to tell me how horrible it was to put a wallet in one’s back pocket. Among other things, it causes scoliosis of the spine. I found this hard to believe; lifeguards have only the most rudimentary medical knowledge, and I was under the

impression that scoliosis was a condition one was born with. But still, he had planted the seed for my neurosis to cultivate, and for the next few days I kept my wallet in the front of my jeans. Eventually, the continual panic attacks of not feeling its comforting weight on my rear made me switch it back, and I chided myself for my gullibility.

The moral of the story, or at least the reason why I am wasting your time with it, is this: I don’t consider it the lifeguard’s responsibility to give me this advice. Was it an unsolicited interference, or was it good for him to be looking out for me, and provide me with his words of wisdom? Questions of etiquette are rarely resolvable, or even interesting, but this one continues to trouble me.

From the manner in which he advised me, the lifeguard seemed quite serious. He was polite, well-spoken, and his advice seemed at least partially valid. (Subsequent Google searching confirms that wallets can hurt your lower back, though to be fair, it must depend on the girth of the wallet in question.) So what was his motive?

Some would argue that to inform others of such potential dangers is

to perform great altruism, for we expect nothing in return, and have no motive other than to spare our fellows from unnecessary suffering. Others would say that this is just a load of crap and that really the only reason we ever offer advice to strangers is to feel smugly superior to them.

Most people, like you and I, have no particularly strong desire to police a stranger’s actions. They simply don’t care enough to praise you for something as minor as holding a door open or condemn you for shoving your *Gateway* between the seat cushions on the train, and there’s nothing all that wrong with this kind of apathy. But when a stranger’s actions could cause them or others some real harm, rather than just a small stab of annoyance and misanthropy, what then?

Is it our social responsibility to try to help them? Probably not. Will our advice be met with hostility? Maybe. Will it be disregarded entirely? Very likely. But when someone is clearly ignorant that they are putting themselves and others in harm’s way, then maybe intrusive and interfering advice is justified. Congratulations, Mr. Lifeguard, I have appropriately rationalized your rudeness.

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• Boston Pizza on Whyte Ave – April 1st  
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## TRAVEL CUTS



TRAVEL TIP  
#58

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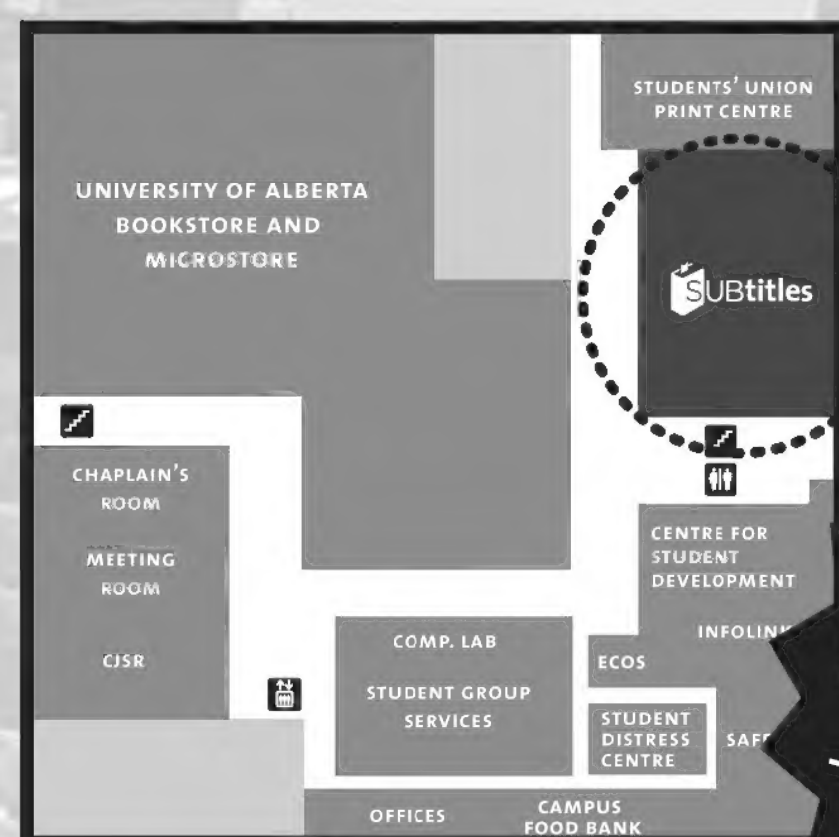
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# TED Talks epitomize our golden age

Modern conference speeches help spread the knowledge of information



TIM  
SCHNEIDER

This past Saturday, unbeknownst to the majority of the city, the first ever Edmonton TEDx event was held. A limited number of people who applied to attend were present to share the insights and ideas of some of Edmonton's best and brightest.

For those who aren't already tuned in, Technology, Entertainment, and Design conferences are a hot topic since they started being recorded and dispersed via the Internet in 2006. You've more than likely seen a friend post a link to one on Facebook or Twitter attached with an insightful comment along the lines of, “Amazing!” Although they've been going on since the '80s, TED talks are starting to reach mainstream popularity. It's a wholly good thing since they unite under the tagline “Ideas Worth Spreading.”

In the grander scheme, though, TED represents a sign of a greater movement in our population. It's a movement that society has seen before, with the emergence of the Internet and globally shared ideas. What's exciting about this, though, is that we're witnessing an intellectual movement similar to the Age of Enlightenment. Now, maybe I'm just under the influence of the last 600

pages of Parisian enlightenment history, which I read to satisfy my unusually cruel history professor, or maybe there's something to be seen here.

The Enlightenment was sparked in part by a reading revolution. Prior to this period, those who read owned few books and read them in depth, often to the point of memorization. Around 1750, this changed, and those who could afford them built extensive libraries, using them as resources, and soaking in as much knowledge as possible.

**What's exciting about this, though, is that we're witnessing an intellectual movement similar to the Age of Enlightenment.**

Compare this to modern times: with the dissemination of information over the web, we have gone from a few sources of knowledge, to an almost unlimited access to world information. It's easily available on demand, especially with modern smart phones.

Much like the spark of the Enlightenment period, we've also started to contextualize almost every field in a new way of thinking. While back then it was the application of reason, logic, and the emergence of scientific thinking, we are now moving from a single-minded knowledge specialization to a

global and interdisciplinary approach. You'll even notice this on campus with the creation of new interdisciplinary courses that blend traditional academic specialties in new ways.

But we were talking about TED talks. The Enlightenment was characterized by events called salons, at which the aristocrats invited intellectuals, who were often natural philosophers, to attend and speak. This was one of the primary focal points of intellectual discussion during that time. It's clear that these TED conferences are the salons of our modern intellectual movement. They encourage the discussion of ideas from a globally minded, broad approach.

The inevitable shift towards a technology-oriented mindset means that it's no longer natural philosophers who are being embraced as intellectuals (in fact, most just find us philosophy students annoying and arrogant), but rather the computing science students and those who are interacting with technology in new and exciting ways.

What it comes down to is that we are amidst an intellectual revolution, one that here in a centre of academia we should fully embrace and be aware of. It seems that these TED talks are bringing about positive discussion on world issues, which can only be a good thing. And as we move further into the information age, I look forward to having more of these discussions in our community unleashed by technological change and the democratic Internet.

## Subjects “at risk” of being labelled a threat to campus



CODY  
CIVIERO

In a move with creepily authoritarian overtones, the university recently implemented a watch program encouraging students and professors to report any peers exhibiting “at risk behaviour,” so that the accused would be put on a watch list and investigated. Those manning the initiative would then determine whether “intervention or assistance” is necessary for the subject of the finger-pointing.

Students' Union Vice President (Academic) Leah Trueblood has rightfully criticized the program in more polite and reserved terms than I would be able to muster, but it's unfortunate that it's the kind of thing that can be easily made to look proactive and helpful on a superficial level, effortlessly minimizing opposition to something that should be given a closer look.

Although proponents disingenuously suggested that the program was designed to help the mentally ill and discourage suicide, it's an especially dubious goal given that the program was explicitly developed as a consequence of the Virginia Tech shooting and other such incidents. Lamely titled the “Helping Individuals at Risk Policy,” but designed to make everyone suspect that said individuals are all potentially mass-murdering psychopaths, the program can't do anything but stigmatize and discourage people

from seeking psychiatric help when they might need it.

This is nothing new. High-profile but rare violent incidents like the Vincent Li case, as well as common demonization in all facets of popular culture, serve to create a culture of ignorance and fear with regards to psychiatric illness, and policies such as this will have a similar effect. But in reality, one in five Canadians will experience mental illness at some point in their lives, and between substantial environmental stress, as well as natural and genetic factors, people of college age are most at risk. Fostering attitudes of suspicion won't help to educate the population of this.

But every time a particularly horrific event occurs, there will always be short-term thinkers and reactionaries who are willing to make unreasonable compromises to enact preventative measures when some things can't be prevented. And in this case, student morale, community, and privacy are being sacrificed in exchange for no tangible benefit. No matter what programs are enacted, people will slip through the cracks and psychiatric help will usually need to be administered in a voluntary fashion until the very rare occasions where thoughts translate into action.

If you think that a friend is in trouble, talk to them. The University already offers crisis counselling, psychiatrists, and support for students with disabilities. These services are all invaluable and take a healthy, understanding approach to the issues. Because being an object of excessive scrutiny and paranoia could, ironically, make the most level-headed of us insane.

## THE BURLAP SACK

T'was the night before St. Patrick's Day, when all through the house, Mike's screeches of vulgarities echoed in and out. His threats were uttered with malice and disgust, but still Mike's idiot neighbor refused to give up.

Three months after Christmas his house is still lit, with lights and decorations, why that stupid twit! Santa and his elves are still busy at work, while visions of brown grass and snow mold start to unearth.

A herd of wooden reindeer consumes his front lawn, as my stupid old neighbour sits there egging them on. On Comet! On Cupid! On Donner and Blitzen! If you're still there come April it's the band saw for Vixen!

A lone top hat sits in the street of my hood, in a puddle of water where Frosty once stood. As bikes, RVs, and skateboards roll by, the ghost of Christmas past continues to die. You can call me a Grinch; I'll sit there and shrug. For what do I care, Dr. Seuss was on drugs!

So I toss my neighbor into Santa's fine burlap sack, so that the elves may beat him with chair legs and bats.

As I wind down this abomination to a fine Christmas story, I plead with you all to take fourth my message in glory.

“Take down your Christmas decorations, the golf courses are opening for God's Sake! And to all a good night!”

MIKE CHAFE

*The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.*



social  
intercourse**Wax For AIDS!**

Friday, March 19 at 12–4 p.m.  
SUBstage  
Free

This is hands down the best fundraising idea I've ever heard of. As a hairstylist, I've shaved thousands of heads for cancer, but honestly, I think this has that idea trumped. The World University Service of Canada will be raising money to purchase bicycle ambulances for people in sub-Saharan Africa, which is an extremely important means of transportation for volunteers who work with those affected by AIDS and HIV. So grab your hairiest, bearded indie-hipster friends and collect pledges for them to get their faces waxed. That, my friends, is entertainment that I'd be happy to pay to see.

**John K. Samson**

Friday, March 19 at 9 p.m. with Brad Ferguson  
Saturday, March 20 at 6 p.m. with Jordan Norman  
Haven Social Club (15120 Stony Plain Rd.)  
\$20 at Ticketmaster

As a scrappy teenage skate punk, I immediately fell in love with the political punk anthems of Winnipeg's Propagandhi. Chris Hannah's angry rants were perfectly complemented by the sugary sweet vocals of Johnny Samson. As I matured beyond the angst of teenage rebellion, the Weakerthans provided the soundtrack to my life on the Canadian prairies. Their songs spoke to me in a way that no one else could, providing me with a companion on my journey into the life of a 20-something looking for direction. With that band still going strong, he's taking a step away from the group to support his new solo 7" *City Route 85* with an intimate cross-country tour. Those who are familiar with Winnipeg will be especially delighted, as this marks the first in a series of EPs that will revolve around different roads and highways in Manitoba. A rare treat, the Canadian darling will be performing two nights in the city this weekend.

**Alberta Student Film Festival**

March 19–20 at 6:30 p.m.  
Zeidler Hall, main floor of Citadel Theatre  
(9828–101A Ave.)  
Admission by donation

Over two dozen short films will be shown over two days during this annual event from the University of Alberta Society of Creative Filmmaking. These films showcase the work of up-and-coming filmmakers. A short awards ceremony will follow the screenings on Saturday, with an afterparty at the Elephant and Castle in City Centre Mall. Since a portion of their funding comes from University-related offices — like the Students' Union and the Dean of Students Office — students should make sure to check out one of the worthy places that their money has been going towards. Check out a rare opportunity to see some homegrown independent talent. After all, Canadian film genius Bruce McDonald began with short films too.

**The Blame-Its**

CD release parties  
Friday, March 19 at 9 p.m. with Let's Dance  
New City Likwid Lounge (10081 Jasper Ave.)  
Saturday, March 20 at 8 p.m. with Nervous Wreck  
Avonmore Hall (7902–73 Ave.)  
\$10 at the door

For a decade and a half, Edmonton's finest pop punks have been churning out tunes, while going largely underappreciated. Here's hoping that the release of their new album *Panic Plus Planet* will turn that around. Tapping into the beer-soaked melodies of artists like Chixdiggit and Screeching Weasel, these four guys play infectious songs that will leave the most hardcore punk pogo-ing along. Anyone who has never attended a punk rock hall show is living a sadly sheltered life. Even if you don't appreciate the music, the experience is well worth the time.

DUSTIN BLUMHAGEN  
Best friends with Mr. Chi Pig



# Eighth bassist a charm for Every Time I Die

## musicpreview

**Every Time I Die**

*With Four Year Strong, Polar Bear Club, and Trapped Under Ice*  
Monday, March 22 at 7 p.m.  
Starlite Room (10030–102 St.)  
\$20 at Blackbyrd

DUSTIN BLUMHAGEN  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

The exploits of Every Time I Die's Jordan and Keith Buckley have been widely published. They're known to be notoriously difficult with journalists, rarely giving serious interviews. ETID has been around since 1998, but before their current bassist joined in 2007, they went through seven of them. Add to that the recent departure of their longtime drummer Mike Novak, and it seems reasonable to believe that the Buckley brothers may be the common denominators. Their well-known affinity for light-hearted jokes and crazy antics argues against such a harsh condemnation, but it still breeds curiosity. Bassist Josh Newton quickly dismisses any notions of Oasis-level sibling rivalry or massive egos.

"Joining the band was completely effortless. Literally from the day I got in the van, it was like I had always been in the band [...] I haven't played on all the records, but personality-wise with the band, it was never, ever an effort. It's completely natural, so I don't really understand what the problem was with everybody else," Newton explains.

"[Keith and Jordan] are such different people that it's not like that at all. Plus, they've been brothers for so long, obviously, and they have been doing the band for so long that everyone is so comfortable within their roles that it's never really an issue. Sometimes I actually forget that they're brothers," Newton explains.

That pressing issue settled, we begin to discuss the latest record *New Junk Aesthetic* and its guests. Newton is quick to discuss how Greg Puciato (Dillinger Escape Plan) and Matt Caughthran (The Bronx) made their way onto the record. But when I start to ask about pop-culture mainstay Pete

Wentz, Newton begins laughing before I finish mentioning his name. Apparently this isn't the first time someone has expressed confusion over his presence on the album highlight "Wanderlust."

"The band has known him forever, from his Chicago days and being in hardcore bands that he was in. He and Keith [Buckley] had been trading lyrics back and forth for a different project, and I think the line he sings he actually wrote. It was just the last day of mixing and they asked, 'Pete wants to sing a line on the record, do you care?' I was fine having things not making sense," Newton says.

**"[Warped is] the most fun tour I've ever done. It's such a good time; it's like summer camp that you happen to play a show at."**

JOSH NEWTON  
BASSIST, EVERY TIME I DIE

The courage of the band's decision, considering the potential backlash from their fans, is commendable. ETID is known for their fun-loving antics and high-energy live shows, but like any underground band, they suffer their share of controversy, too. While the inclusion of Ashlee Simpson's baby daddy may seem like an outrageous idea initially, the song he collaborated on stands as one of the groups' best singles. Their love of experimentation mixed with their southern-fried metal has helped them to stand out from the metal masses. Members of the band have diverse tastes in music, from pretty-boy hipsters Vampire Weekend to death metallers Entombed. This diversity helps to create the band's unique sound.

"You can't help but bring [your influences] in," Newton says. "Obviously, if something isn't going to make sense in the band, we're not going to use it. At the same time, we really have no rules, nothing we can't do."

Often in these far northern landscapes, music fans have to wait extended periods between live shows from their favourite bands. Every Time I

Die has been absent from western Canada for a long time, so their upcoming show is building a lot of excitement. The Warped Tour vets are once again joining the touring summer camp this year, which is coming to Edmonton for the first time. That means that fans not only get to see the group in an intimate show next week at the Starlite, but they'll also have an opportunity to see them play at an outdoor festival.

Pop-punkers Four Year Strong and gritty indie punks Polar Bear Club are also both on the Warped Tour bill, so Edmonton fans will get a rare double shot of these three bands this year, but don't expect to see the same show twice.

"[Warped is] the most fun tour I've ever done. It's such a good time; it's like summer camp that you happen to play a show at [...] With Warped, we have so many friends involved in running the tour, it's really effortless. But if I was going to pick shows that we would play, I definitely prefer a small-room, intimate environment kind of thing. Those shows, for me, are always a lot more memorable and a lot more fun. If I was going to a show, I would rather go to a show like that, personally," Newton says.

Their place on what was once dubbed "punk rock summer camp" seems even more fitting this year, with their latest album being released by renowned punk label Epitaph Records. The move to a new label has helped to increase the band's profile with their new release — momentum that they hope to capitalize upon with a heavy presence on the touring circuit over the next year.

"As someone who basically only did the touring when the band was on Ferret [Music], I think that there's a lot of difference between how the promotion is handled [...] I feel like there's a lot more attention being paid to the band by the label. It's great. I have nothing but good things to say about Epitaph [...] They've been around longer and they've dealt with bigger bands. Brett [Gurewitz, owner of Epitaph] being in Bad Religion, he knows what a band needs to function. It's been nothing but a positive change," Newton emphasizes.

While some bands are keen to sit back and whine about the changing state of music, Every Time I Die seem poised to take on the world with their dirty rock 'n' roll sound. I'm just content to have caught the band on a good day.



**WORDS** Nick Frost  
**ART** Lauren Alston

# BREAKIN' DOWN THE E-TOWN SOUND

## A Brief History of Hip-Hop in Edmonton

### PART ONE: MULTIPLE BEGINNINGS

It was just another Saturday night in 1984. Inside the booth at the CJSR studio on the University of Alberta campus, a revolution in sound was preparing to rise up through the airwaves and usher in a multitude of new styles of urban music completely unfamiliar to most Edmontonians. For anyone who cared to venture into the unknown, a street-toughened yet smooth operator known simply as T.E.D.D.Y. awaited them behind the microphone, ready to win over a whole new generation of listeners on the other side with groovy beats and clever hooks. As the mysterious DJ dropped the needle onto his first record, hip-hop music began emanating its infant steps to radio dials across the city, and with that first scratch of the record, a new community was born.

### The Renegades of Edmonton Hip-Hop

Strike up a conversation with anyone who's anyone in Edmonton's hip-hop community, and invariably T.E.D.D.Y.'s name will come up at some point. With the amount of innovators in the latter half of the '80s that were responsible for pioneering the city's hip-hop scene into what it is today, his might not always be the first name mentioned, but it never gets lost in the mix — in fact, no person receives more gratitude for their early contributions.

Better known as Teddy Pemberton to those who know him best, the Brooklyn ex-pat moved to Edmonton and quickly set up shop with CJSR in 1980, affording the opportunity to broadcast with a station that didn't follow the conventional guidelines of popular radio. By the time 1984 rolled around and the station acquired their license to operate on an FM transmitter, Pemberton introduced his new show called *The Black Experience in Sound*, which aired during the 10 p.m. to midnight time slot on Saturday nights.

At the time, the cultural significance was patently apparent — up until that point, radio stations in Edmonton only stuck to familiar genres of music, with urban forms like hip-hop, funk, and R&B getting lost entirely in a sea of hair metal and synth pop. *TBES* provided many young Edmontonians their first opportunity to hear the sounds that were coming out of an urban Mecca like New York.

"Most praise had to go to the DJ called T.E.D.D.Y. because he was broadcasting on CJSR [...] as far back as '84 when the FM license came through. But definitely in the late '80s and then resuming in the '90s, he was bringing hip-hop

music to Edmontonians and giving them access to things that they never would've gotten otherwise," said Minister Faust, a former member of the Edmonton-based Militant Rap Party and current host of *The Terrordome* on CJSR.

Acquiring hip-hop music in any form, be it cassette tape or vinyl record — even material put out by acts that were beginning to achieve mainstream popularity like Kurtis Blow and Run-D.M.C. — was a rather burdensome task in Edmonton during the mid '80s. Pemberton's program not only broke down the barriers of broadcasting urban music in the city, but saved listeners the trouble of having to go out and expend their best efforts trying to track down certain records.

"There were just a few places where you could buy that stuff at that time," Faust said. "Eventually, I think by around '88, you'd start to see more records and tapes show up in other stores. But if T.E.D.D.Y. hadn't have been broadcasting stuff, they wouldn't have heard; they certainly weren't going to hear it on commercial radio. They'd maybe have a song around, say, 1986 — maybe 'Walk This Way,' but that was only because of Aerosmith."

Once Edmonton's youth had been exposed to the sounds of hip-hop music, the next logical step was to try and harness that energy into putting together their own beats and rhymes.

Edmonton-born MC Errol "E-Dot" Henry, still a young man during the late '80s, is a former member of the 1-8-2 Crew. He credits his fellow crew members for showing him the ropes when it came to making beats and mixing

the final product, but notes that even greater credit belongs to a man named Mark Giles, who currently works as a reggae producer under the moniker "Jah Servant."

"The person responsible for hip-hop as we know it, and the music as we know it in Alberta is a guy — who last I heard lived in Calgary, but used to live in Edmonton — named Mark Giles," E-Dot said. "Giles is the guy who actually taught us how to make the beats and the music and stuff like that. He didn't even teach me; he taught the people who taught me."

Of course, beyond the music, hip-hop as a culture entails more elements than just MCing and packaging beats. B-boying, through never as prominent as the musical side of the culture in Edmonton, had a more underground following. But it still had innovators who led the way for those who danced in crews, the biggest of which was Don Joyce.

Once the proud possessor of ITV's 3:30 a.m. timeslot back in 1997, competing against infomercials and syndicated sitcoms, Joyce's program "Dance TV" carved out a niche following with viewers, and allowed aspiring dancers to come on the show and bust their moves.

"There was an era [in Edmonton b-boying] in that there was Don Joyce, who was the guy that was really controlling the scene," E-Dot explained. "He did a lot of the breakdancing, and he really lived it; he really documented a lot of things that were on TV. Way back in the day while MuchMusic was doing once a week hip-hop [...] Don Joyce was doing it local with cable television."





## Coming up in the Game

Around the late '80s and into the early '90s, aspiring MCs, DJs, and b-boys began forming some of Edmonton's first hip-hop crews. Over in the northwest end of the city, a group of guys living on 182 Street formed the 1-8-2 Crew, which became one of the city's most prominent crews during the period.

A mouthpiece for the group, E-Dot — who now resides in Brooklyn — believes that “by the grace of God,” they were fortunate to be living in an area populated by a wealth of incredible artists. One of those artists was his childhood friend Andre Hamilton, who produced one of Edmonton's most notable hip-hop singles “Kawz 4 Alarm” as the solo artist Deadaliss in 1995.

“Andre got a keyboard called EPS-16, and I had never seen anything like it before, and I was in his basement right on 182 Street and he was making music. I saw him sampling and making loops, and making all this incredible music, and it really opened my eyes to it,” E-Dot said.

“Prior to that in 1984, during the Olympics — Mary Lou Retton and stuff like that — I was really writing rhymes for myself and upon meeting Andre and growing up with him, seeing him coming into the music and performing, and kinda looking up to him at the time, I saw him doing this and I was like, ‘whoa!’ [...] He started getting shows, took me under his wing, and we opened up for pretty much every artist you could open up for back in the day, we were pretty much responsible for opening up.”

Establishing and promoting a crew was particularly difficult for up-and-coming Edmonton artists. In a region where hip-hop still wasn't a prevalent form of art, and small-town mentality trumped the New York know-how, nobody really knew the proper avenues with which to produce and distribute the music. Attempting to reach a wider audience was seen more as an individualistic venture, rather than a

collaborative effort, during a time when everyone was technically a fresh, inexperienced artist.

“It was like crabs in a bucket as far as music in Alberta at the time. We didn't have a mentality of helping each other, and really nobody knew the business thoroughly, so really we didn't know what to do with this music that we had — we didn't know how to get it in stores, we didn't know the process of getting it mastered,” E-Dot explained. “Our music wasn't as good as everyone else's on a CD because we didn't know about the process of mastering, the business aspect, the distribution aspect, the publishing aspect — and anyone who did know wouldn't share that information.”

Competition between crews to establish their position on the Edmonton hip-hop hierarchy was also regarded as fierce — and not just in the musical sense. While MC battling was huge in the early stages of hip-hop culture in establishing legitimacy among the community, many crews had beefs with each other. E-Dot said this truth exists in communities everywhere, and comes from the east-coast braggadocio mentality that spawned from the swagger of New York hip-hop artists. Rest assured, though, he maintains that conflicts never resulted in any detrimental violence.

“Absolutely it escalated to physical violence several times. Justin Ryan [and The Maximum Definitive], and Altered State Alliance hated each other. There was always beefs, you know what I'm saying? But it never escalated to no killings or stabbings, it was more so ‘put ‘em up.’ And I don't want to set the wrong image — it wasn't predominantly that. It happened once in a while. But there was definitely feelings of beef. When we'd see each other in the club, we played the tough guy and staring across the club and wasted your time for two hours — stupid shit.”

**“It was like crabs in a bucket as far as music in Alberta at the time. We didn't have a mentality of helping each other, and really nobody knew the business thoroughly, so really we didn't know what to do with this music that we had — we didn't know how to get it in stores, we didn't know the process of getting it mastered.”**

— Errol “E-Dot” Henry

## Our Hood and Native Land

Around the same time that the 1 8 2 Crew was coming up, another street based group and one of Edmonton's most successful Aboriginal hip hop acts took from 1 8 2's example and named themselves after the 118 Street area where they established themselves. Starting up out of a duplex, Won 18's Doug Bedard — who adapted his moniker “Plex” to the style of housing that he grew up in — and his crew were forced to make their way in a less than ideal economic situation.

“We grew up in low income housing, a lot of Aboriginals — not saying all of us, I mean it'd be a generalization to say that all Indians are poor and stuff like that,” Plex recalled. “But for a lot of us, especially in the neighbourhood I grew up in, it was a low income area and it was a less desirable part of town where people would want to move, and that's where we ended up kinda getting cornered into.”

The struggle of making a hip hop career work in times where income was low provided motivation for Plex, however, and he believes that the culture of hip hop speaks to those who suffer through the plight of certain economic situations.

“I think that hip hop, given the fact that it originated in New York and it was basically fostered in that area where there was low income for all these people, basically came from their hearts and experiences. I think that Aboriginal people can really relate to that, especially my generation, because we come from a similar environment and it's basically speaking to us.”

From his initial forays into the hip hop community, Plex has been largely self sufficient in terms of financing the necessary materials to start a career as a MC. Though there are some funding opportunities available to aspiring

artists who can find it, much of the money necessary to fund equipment has been done through fundraising efforts.

“Until about two years ago, I'd never applied for any funding. I was really relying on groups like War Party, who were based out of Hobbema, to really build that template that a lot of Aboriginal hip hop artists are using right now, which is to try and almost fundraise to do your projects, by doing community outreach gigs,” Plex explained.

“A lot of reserves want to see change, so the government finances a lot of program oriented events, and I think that a lot of the Aboriginal groups from that area were able to get out and kind of keep it alive. Like, I think War Party wouldn't have seen any interest in doing it for the past 15 years unless they were able to have some sort of financial way to make it work, and we've always relied on that.”

Plex continually stresses the importance of hip hop music and culture within the Aboriginal culture. Though many artists who come out of reservations these days, according to him, aren't rapping about their experiences as Aboriginals or many of the issues associated with them, such as poverty and addiction, the fact that they're able to use hip hop as a means of creativity can only spell good things for their people at large.

“Aboriginal people — and I know this for a fact — are some of the most creative people on the planet,” Plex stated. “You see it in their artwork, you see it in their dance, you see it in their music. So I think it's been an easy thing for us to be able to share our stories and continue for thousands of generations, we've been storytellers, so I think hip hop is just an easy outlet for us to get into.”

**But the beat don't stop there — be sure to check out Part 2 of “Breakin' Down the E-Town Sound” in next Thursday's edition of the Gateway when we discuss Edmonton's most successful acts and the current state of hip-hop in the city.**



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# Motion sensor controls freeze the fun for the hardcore gaming community

Serious gamers hang heads as Sony and Microsoft announce new Wii-like systems



MIKE  
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Ever since Nintendo released the Wii to the public, competitors Microsoft and Sony have been trying to find ways to topple the gaming giant and figure out what the secret is to their success with their motion-control-oriented console.

At 2009's E3 conference, instead of announcing a new console, Sony unveiled their answer to the Wii: the PlayStation Move. Brandishing similar concepts and design as the Wiimote controller, the PlayStation Move is a peripheral that allows the player to control certain aspects of the game via body/hand movements and gestures. If you're having a hard time imagining what this might look like, just picture a curvy sex toy with buttons and a large glowing tip.

Microsoft, on the other hand, decided that this concept of using physical controllers was lame and dated, so they kicked things up a notch (both technologically and conceptually) by turning the player's body into one big controller through its new Xbox 360 accessory, Project Natal. Instead of using remote controls, Natal is powered by a

sensor bar that not only tracks your movements, but is capable of facial recognition giving the player this new level of interaction with the game.

Still, one question arises: what does this movement towards motion controls mean for the gaming industry? Let me answer this question with a question of my own: have you seen the Wii lately?

Because the Wii is targeted to casual gamers (a.k.a. noobs), the quality of Wii games is lacking — most now fall along the lines of childish party games, exercise programs, or rail shooters that don't even fully utilize the Wii's innovative motion controls or use it as a gimmick. Even though you'll have the odd *Zelda* or *Metroid* vehicle for the hardcore gaming crowd, with the amount of subpar games on the Wii, coupled with the fact that the system can't produce graphics you'd see on the PS3 or Xbox, many of the industry's major developers have veered away from producing new and exciting intellectual property for the Wii. As a result, the consumer suffers in the end, and Nintendo is subjected to many jeers from the hardcore gaming community.

But now with motion controls being implemented in more powerful consoles, there's no doubt in my mind that both Microsoft's Project Natal and the PlayStation Move will inevitably become nothing more than fads. Yes, they're

both innovative in their own right, but from what was shown during E3 2009 and this year's Game Developer's Conference, I'm not exactly impressed because Nintendo has already beaten everyone to the punch, and has already proven that motion controls have little to offer the more hardcore gaming crowd.

If Microsoft and Sony go through with these accessories, the gaming community can expect to see a drop in quality in games for hardcore gamers. Sony's Sixaxis controller motion control (which is considered to be the company's first answer to the Wii) hasn't been implemented all that well in some PS3 games on the market, and is being toned down to simple motions that don't add any depth to gameplay, which is what motion controls were meant for — adding depth and immersing you in the game. As of now, only a handful of games like *The Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess*, *Heavy Rain*, and *No More Heroes* have managed to achieve this sense of immersion.

While neither the PlayStation Move or Project Natal have been released yet, I think it's safe to hold tight to your controllers for the time being. Because honestly, when you play video games, you're supposed to just sit back and relax. If I wanted to work up a sweat waving my arms around, I'd just go outside, because then at least I'm not dishing out an arm and a leg to flail around like an idiot.

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**BLESS THE RAINS DOWN IN AFRICA** Members of the African Students Association pose for photos with the multiple-Grammy-Award-winning group, The Soweto Gospel Choir, who performed at the Winspear Centre on Tuesday evening. Tendai Muparutsa an Ethnomusicology, PhD student at the U of A entertained the group with some traditional mbira music from Zimbabwe when they stopped by campus on Monday evening. The event for the South African based group, was sponsored by the Faculty of Education International Office, University of Alberta International and members of the African Community.



# Hot Tub gives middle finger to technical time travel

To the critics who ask, “why travel through time in a hot tub?” writer Josh Heald and director Steve Pink answer, “why the hell not?”

## filmpreview

### Hot Tub Time Machine

Written by Josh Heald

Directed by Steve Pink

Starring John Cusack, Rob Corddry, Craig Robinson, Clark Duke, Crispin Glover, Collette Wolfe, and Lizzy Caplan

Opens March 26

This past weekend, Arts & Entertainment Editor Sarah Stead ventured to Lake Tahoe, Nevada to rub shoulders with some of the stars of *Hot Tub Time Machine*. After giving a rundown of the weekend experience in Tuesday's Gateway, she's now sharing her full interviews with the cast, and their thoughts on this ridiculously titled project.

**SARAH STEAD**  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

For most college or university students, the '80s were spent in diapers or swimming around in their future father's loins. However, through the pop culture natural selection process, familiar images of neon leg warmers, Mötley Crüe, big hair, and John Hughes films often come to mind when talking about the decade. In *Hot Tub Time Machine*, four friends are transported back to the year 1986 after going on vacation and drinking in a very special hot tub. According to director Steve Pink, recreating the year 1986 was a careful balancing act between appealing to a younger generation who didn't live during the decade, and throwing a bone to the older crowd who experienced Hammer pants first-hand.

“It couldn't be a parody,” Pink explains. “It wasn't like ‘hey, let's just make jokes about the '80s,’ because that would be boring. I had to make it feel contemporary for [younger] people to like it, because if they don't know those references, it has to be funny.”

Pink — who includes *Better Off Dead* and *The Blues Brothers* among his favourite '80s movies — says that alluding to other well-known pictures of the time was “incumbent upon the film.” Most notably, *Hot Tub Time Machine* owes a lot to Marty McFly and *Back to the Future*. Though a DeLorean is no longer the vessel of time travel, Pink has a few theories about how screenwriter Josh Heald thought up his ideas for *HTTM*.

“[Heald] was probably on his fucking second big ganja weed spliff,” he laughs.



“He was probably like, ‘I know! They fucking go in the fucking hot tub, man.’ [...] It's funny, because when you watch the movie *Time Machine* and the more legit time machine movies, and they have these massive contraptions which are supposed to defy time and space by virtue of somewhat plausible mathematics and equations by cutting into the fabric of what we know of linear time and space, and I'm like ‘Yeah, *that's* plausible.’”

The original script of *HTTM* went through several drafts and rewrites, with new scenes and jokes being added and removed almost daily. At some points, even some of the actors, including Rob Corddry and Clark Duke, decided to join the writing team in an increasingly full creative kitchen.

“My scenes got cut,” laughs Duke, who plays Adam's (Cusack) nephew Jacob in the movie.

Even with some of the chaos created by the multiple rewrites of *HTTM*, Duke says it's a project that he was on board with from the beginning.

“For me,” he says, “it was [*Hot Tub Time Machine*] or Taylor Lautner's role in *Twilight*. I stand by my choice [...] I never thought I'd get a title that topped [my last film] *Sex Drive* for pure stupidity, but we did it, [and it's] followed

by [my next film] *Kick-Ass*,” he adds, laughing.

Once the script's challenges were all ironed out, next came the surprisingly difficult task of locating “the right hot tub” to carry the four main characters through time. Pink had several prototypes, and realized that some significant innovation was going to be required to increase the visual appeal of the time travel scenes.

“They built some kind of thing [in the tub] where the water was constantly spinning, like a toilet,” Duke explains.

“Which makes you guys the poops,” adds co-star Rob Corddry, who plays Lou, the dysfunctional alcoholic friend.

Another one of the university journalists at our roundtable interview asks Duke and Corddry to respond to Spike Lee's claims that time travel films, such as *Back to the Future* are “bland,” and Corddry has some choice words for the acclaimed director.

“Spike Lee can suck a dick,” he says. “Write that down. Spike Lee can suck my dick.”

“Now Spike Lee's never gonna hire us,” laughs Duke.

In contrast to his easygoing co-stars, Crispin Glover, who plays a one-armed bellman in *HTTM*, is much more serious. For our interview, he comes in

wearing a suit and tie, hair perfectly groomed. He speaks slowly, enunciating each syllable, and composes his answers to our questions carefully. After detailing his side projects, and explaining how his big-budget films help fund his creative endeavours, I ask how a serious guy like himself prepares for a comedic role. For the first time since we've started our interview, he laughs.

“I approach it pretty similarly to how I work on a dramatic film,” Glover says. “There's that adage: ‘play comedy like tragedy, and tragedy like comedy.’ I do believe in that [...] Most people that play good comedy do that at least to a certain extent [...] I don't always love comedies because to me, they're not always funny, [but] I think this film does actually have some very funny things in it.”

The film's focus lies largely on the four male leads, Adam (Cusack), Nick (Robinson), Lou (Corddry), and Jacob (Duke), as their characters try to maintain the future by reliving the past, but the film's few female characters insist that just because the ladies are outnumbered and the jokes are crude, doesn't mean it's a “guy's movie.”

“Girls don't get enough credit for liking gross-out humour, and I think we

can hang just as good as the boys can,” says Lizzy Caplan, who plays Adam's love interest, April.

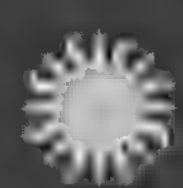
Collette Wolfe, who stars as Jacob's promiscuous mother Kelly in one of the most direct references to *Back to the Future*, says that in addition to playing a large part in some of the film's gross-out gags, she also had some influence on her most important '80s accessory in the film — her hair.

“I called my mom, who's a hairdresser, and asked her because the '80s was her time to shine,” Wolfe says. “She said that she wanted me to look like Christy Brinkley, and I was like, ‘I agree!’ [...] The bigger your hair, the more thin your face looks. [...] But it's a lot of work.”

“It's a goal everyday,” adds Caplan. “Like, how big can I get my hair?”

Steve Pink is hoping that the pastiche he's created of '80s culture, and the novelty of travelling through time in a giant tub filled with bubbling water will prove to be a successful blend for *HTTM*. Though the concept may have emerged during a serious case of the munchies, according to Pink, that's what makes it worthwhile.

“It's ridiculous,” Pink concludes, “and so being aware of that is key.”



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# Jay Malinowski seeing *Bright Lights* without Bedouin

## musicpreview

### Jay Malinowski

With Kinnie Starr and Michael Rault  
Sunday, March 21 at 8 p.m.  
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DUSTIN BLUMHAGEN  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

As the first signs of spring begin to arrive in our northern climate, there appears to be a brightening of moods amongst members of the public. Instead of walking around with permanent frowns like they're suffering from Seasonal Affective Disorder, people are smiling more as they gradually strip layers from their wardrobe. At this time of year, the mellow sunshine of Canadian roots rockers Bedouin Soundclash provide a suitable soundtrack to life in the city. The anticipation of summer can be felt on the air. It would seem strange then, that lead singer Jay Malinowski would choose this time of year to release his moody solo album, *Bright Lights and Bruises*.

"There were a lot of different things I was going through, and this is sort of a way of getting that out. This is really a cathartic record for me. Writing the record for me was a way of working through those things before going back to write another Bedouin record," Malinowski says.

The album marks the first release for Bedouin's new record label, Pirates Blend. The label was formed as an outlet for the music they enjoyed, with an emphasis on freedom from the corporate machinations of traditional record labels. With help from their manager, they're celebrating their first release with *Bright Lights and Bruises*.

"We started it [so that we could] release Bedouin stuff and my record. We're excited to finally have control of things, and to be putting out stuff we really like," Malinowski says.

Solo releases often signal the beginning of the



end for an established band, but he's quick to put any rumours to rest, pointing to an upcoming Bedouin Soundclash remix album to be released in the next couple of months. When asked how touring with his band differs from his current situation, Malinowski sounds like he feels guilty for leaving his bandmates behind.

"It's a little bit more quiet on tour, and the guys are a couple of my best friends. It's sort of weird to be on tour and not having [Eon Sinclair] around. The shows themselves are really different; it's a lot more intense for me to do a live show. I have people come up on stage with me. I do a lot of it just alone, though," he says.

While his solo effort is a far stretch from the upbeat rhythms of reggae and ska that permeate his previous output, it's by no means an angst-ridden slab of aggro rock. Sweet melodies complement Malinowski's easily recognizable voice well.

Joe Strummer's solo releases revealed an artist that moved well beyond the confines of the Clash, and Malinowski similarly successfully channels the quieter side of his music with his solo efforts. The acoustic album portrays a tender melancholy that brings to mind a cool wind that knocks the leaves from the trees as another autumn approaches.



## albumreview

### Nadia

Arrival  
M15 West Studios

JANE VOLOBOEVA  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Despite Nadia's rather discouraging first lyric, "I am a singer who cannot sing," the rest of her album *Arrival* does hold a more meaningful and accurate message. Nadia has an amazing voice that can hit a low growl or a high girly scream; this lady definitely has something to say and she'll say it anyway she can. Calgary-born and raised, Leonard Cohen's influence is clearly present in her music.

*Arrival's* cover art seems deceptively pop-ish, but behind that big hair and Leona Lewis stare is a collection of indie-rock soul songs that will move you — some physically, some emotionally. This album makes me want to slip on a cocktail dress, dig out those killer heels, and sip back a glass of Chateau Margaux. In other words, it's the auditory definition of classy.

This being said, *Arrival* should not be listened to during finals. It might flick a switch in your brain that will inspire you to scoff at those mere pieces of paper that have the power of determining your future and run away to the jungle of a tropical country to discover yourself convinced that, "the Blues always bleed red."

I doubt Nadia will hold herself responsible for such decisions made on your part. But hey, that doesn't mean it can't also be fun.



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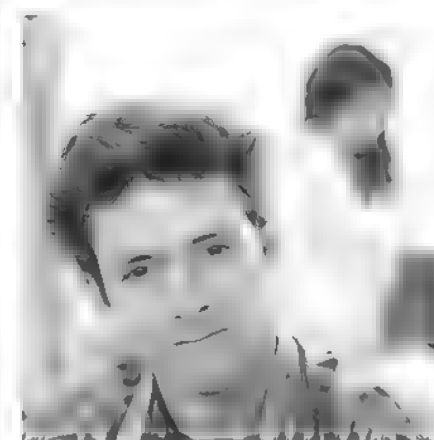
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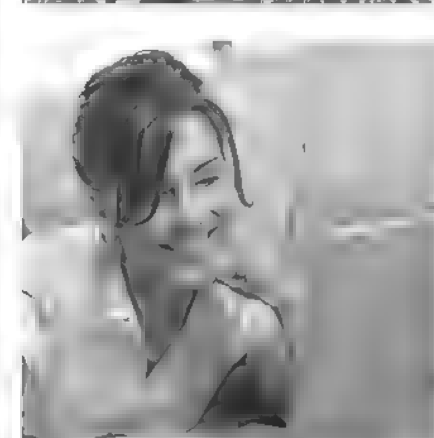
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## Tennis team punches ticket to nationals

EVAN DAUM  
Sports Editor

Fresh off a victory this past weekend at the University and College Western Qualifier Tennis Championship in Abbotsford, B.C., the Golden Bears and Pandas tennis teams will be headed to the national tournament come August in Toronto.

Going up against a trio of other Canada West schools, the U of A side managed to edge out the University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, and the University of Victoria to claim top spot in the round robin tournament, and earn their way to the Canadian University and College Team Championship, which will be held in conjunction with pro tennis' lone Canadian tournament, the Rogers Cup, from August 7-15.

Alberta and the runners-up from the western qualifier, SFU, will join l'Université de Montreal and York University for the national tourney, now is in its second year. While tennis isn't a CIS sport as of yet, increased involvement from Tennis Canada has led to a push to grow the game at the collegiate level across the country.

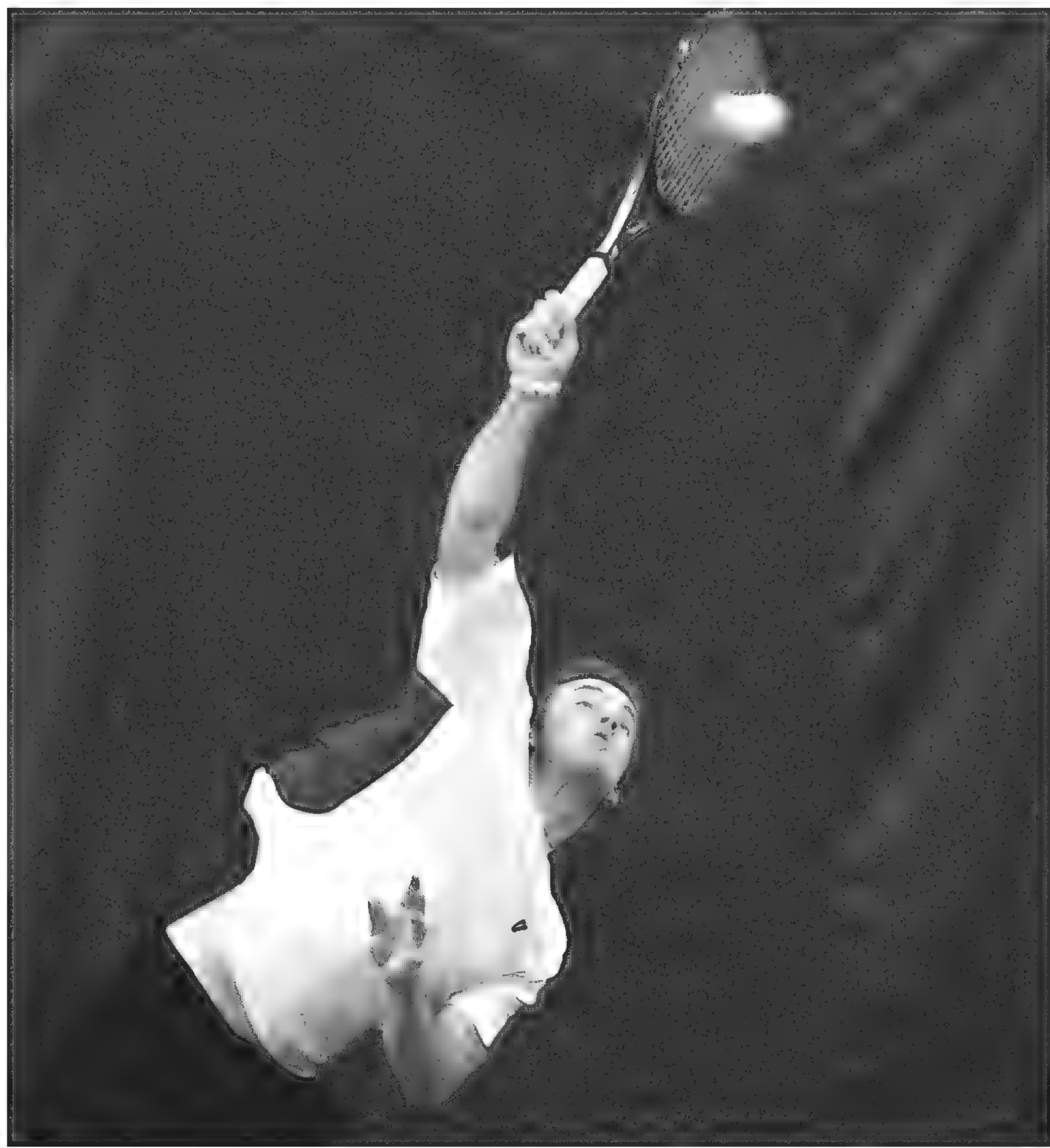
"Tennis Canada is really pushing to add more teams to the mix, so they're working across the country to add more college teams. We're hoping that over time that there will be more regional championships leading into the national championship, and that eventually it will work its way to a CIS designation as well," U of A tennis head coach Russ Sluchinski explained.

With the tournament running at the same time as the Rogers Cup tournament, which has welcomed the likes of world number-one Roger Federer in the past, the athletes will be treated to a grade-A event.

"They're going to put on a great show in Toronto. They'll basically use the same staff that will run the Rogers Cup to host us, and I know from the teams that went last year — Simon Fraser and UVic — they said it was an unbelievable experience," Sluchinski said. "To play some matches in front of some pretty big crowds who are around towards the end of the Rogers Cup looking for things to do between the main matches is great."

"For sure, the players are going to get treated to probably a pretty unique experience. I'm not sure of too many championships that are tied in with an event the calibre of the Rogers Cup."

The Bears and Pandas will head to T.O. with the advantage of having faced at least one of the



PETE YEE

**HAMMER TIME** The Bears and Pandas will be making their inaugural trip to the Canadian University and College Team Championship in early August, where they'll join a trio of other schools.

teams at the national tournament in the form of the SFU Clan, who finished second last season in Toronto, losing to Montreal. The Green and Gold have seen their west coast counterparts on a number of occasions already this season.

"We know that Simon Fraser this year is probably stronger in some areas, not as strong in others. They went and competed well against eastern schools last year and had a good shot, and I feel we have a really good team and a very good chance at doing well."

Leading the way for the Bears will be Lane Richards, the Bears' top player and 62nd-ranked player in the nation on the men's side.

On the women's side, the Pandas will be

relying heavily on doubles star Camilla Knight, who comes to the U of A by way of the United Kingdom. Along with Knight, the Pandas will be looking to Hannah Milne of Scotland, who missed this past weekend's qualifier with a knee injury, to step back in at nationals.

"For someone like her to come to U of A, it's just a bonus when we get someone coming from another country and they've grown up playing tennis. It's great for the team," Sluchinski said of Milne.

The Bears and Pandas will look to stay on the top of their games over the next five months through training before heading to the school's first national team tournament in Hogtown.

## Headshots in hockey remain hot-button issue at both CIS and NHL levels

EVAN DAUM  
Sports Editor

Whether it's the NHL or CIS hockey, hits to the head aren't a new phenomenon, but the issue has gained significant attention this season thanks to a handful of devastating examples of the damage they can cause.

While head-hunting exists at all levels of competitive hockey, the question lingers as to why these incidents are happening so frequently nowadays, along with how leagues need to legislate against them.

Current colour commentator Bob Stauffer of the Oilers Radio Network has watched the game at both the collegiate level, where he was the voice of the Golden Bears for nearly two decades, and the NHL level over his career.

"There's definitely a difference at the CIS level, because there is no real opportunity for retribution."

"You don't have fighting as part of the game, which is a mistake," said Stauffer, in regards to the place head shots and dirty play in general have in the varsity game, compared to the

professional game.

"It benefits the teams that are less skilled to utilize more stick work, to utilize more backside interference. Because of the lack of retribution and the finality of careers for guys when they're done at the end of their fifth years, I've seen some pretty ugly and cheap things at the end of some play-off series."

With fighting still ingrained in the NHL culture, the ability to drop the gloves in CIS was all but erased when the league ushered in an automatic one-game suspension for fighting beginning with the 1987/88 season.

By eliminating fighting from the game, a key tool for players to take control of games themselves after a cheap shot has been stripped away, making a fight at the CIS level a rarity.

"Obviously, there are 50,000-70,000 hits a year in the NHL, and there are 6-10 hits that draw everybody's attention, but you can still kind of send a message," said Stauffer of the ability to fight in the NHL.

"At the CIS level, there is no opportunity to do so."

If fighting were still a part of the CIS

game there would've been fireworks at Clare Drake Arena over the week-end between the Bears and Manitoba Bisons in the Canada West final. Bears forward Chad Klassen — Canada West leading scorer and MVP — was knocked out of the conference championship series with a hit to the head early in Saturday's contest.

**"There's definitely a difference at the CIS level, because there is no real opportunity for retribution. You don't have fighting as part of the game, which is a mistake."**

BOB STAUFFER  
OILERS RADIO NETWORK

"What I saw was a shoulder to the chin. Chad got checked and obviously has a concussion, and a pretty good cut on his forehead," said Bears head

coach Eric Thurston of the hit. "I saw it to be a little bit of a timing play, and now have been able to look at it many times and see that it was a shoulder to the chin. We've lost a good player and I don't know how long until he'll be back."

The player who delivered that blow to Klassen was Manitoba's Travis Mealy. There was no penalty on the play as both referees, Derek Zalaski and Al Smith, saw the sequence as a legal one.

"Both officials felt that it was a clean check. Things do happen fast, but that's why we have two officials," Thurston explained.

While the league has had a penalty designated for hits to the head in place for a number of seasons, plays such as the one Klassen was a part of still happen in the CIS game regardless.

"For the most part, we're okay, but we have to make sure that the officials protect the players. That's their job first and foremost, and that's why they're out there," Thurston said.

Now it's the NHL looking to implement rules to help protect its players

after hits such as the one Pittsburgh Penguins forward Matt Cooke laid on Boston's Marc Savard last week that has left Savard out of action for an indefinite length of time.

"They have accountability to legislate themselves on the ice and deal with it on their terms as well, but the league has to be more vigilant first," Stauffer said.

Stauffer, like many others close to the NHL game, believe that with stiffer penalties for predatory shots on unsuspecting players, fewer hits like the one on Savard will happen. He stresses that suspensions should start with an automatic three-game suspension for a first-time offence, a 10-game suspension for a subsequent offence, and a suspension doubling in length from that point on.

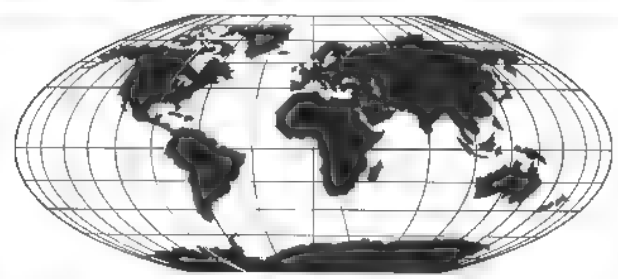
Whether the NHL takes a hardline stance when it comes to legislating against hits to the head remains to be seen, but one thing is certain — despite CIS' attempts to eliminate devastating hits like the one on Klassen, there doesn't appear to be a magic solution to eliminating hits to the head in the game of hockey.



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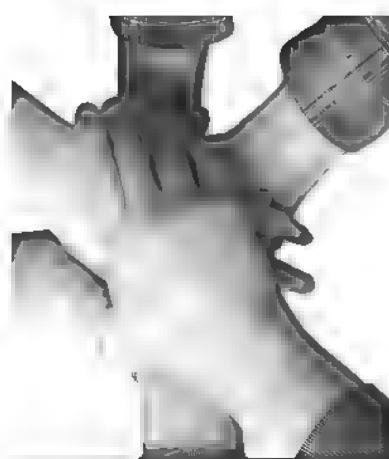
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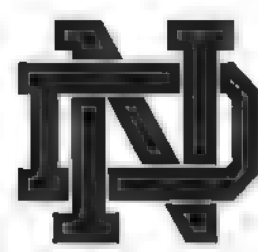
# Legitimate picks, nonsense highlight the Gateway's predictions for March Madness



SPORTS  
STAFF

Group  
Commentary

With the NCAA Division I men's basketball tournament set to open today, here's a look at the Gateway sports staff's bold predictions on how the madness will unfold:



### Emerson Csorba

Less than a month ago, the Notre Dame Fighting Irish were down in the dumps. With the loss of their star big-man Luke Harangody, the season was all but doomed. However, an upset victory over national powerhouse Pittsburgh sparked a six-game winning streak, where the Irish defeated the likes of Connecticut, Georgetown, and Marquette.

Considering N.D.'s recent tear and the strong play of Tim Abromaitis, Tory Jackson, and Ben Hansbrough, Notre Dame will shine in the big dance.

In game one, N.D. will edge Old Dominion by 15 points, then drop Baylor by five in the second round. In the Sweet Sixteen, N.D. will avenge a regular season loss to Villanova with a late three from Hansbrough, and in the Elite Eight, will defeat another Big-12 team — Texas A&M — where Harangody will finish with 20 points and close to as many boards.

And if you're wondering why I say Texas A&M and not Duke, well, the Blue Devils will not make the Final Four. In typical Duke-fashion, they'll lose in the second round against Louisville.

With momentum running high, N.D. will claw their way past an upstart, overconfident Kentucky, and then blast the 16th-seed Lehigh in the championship game.



### Matt Hirji

Capitalizing on an unknown rule stating that anybody who asks politely is eligible to participate in the NCAA men's Basketball Tournament, the Lake Bonavista Bulls, an ages 9-10 community basketball team based out of a recreation centre in Calgary, Alberta will win the tournament. In an exciting game against the Duke Blue Devils, Zack Jones, aged nine and three-quarters, will sink a behind-the-back, half-court shot with time running down to claim victory in the championship match.

While Zack Jones will be named tournament MVP, the Bulls' road to the Final Four will decidedly be a team effort. Coach Juwanna Mann will make sure that every player on the roster gets a chance to play in each game. In addition, the Bulls will make sure that they complete at least four passes on each offensive outing — to guarantee that everyone gets to touch the ball.

After emerging victorious in the championship matchup, the Lake Bonavista Bulls will receive a gold medal and certificates of participation. The awards ceremony will have to be completed promptly, however, because the Bulls need to be tucked into bed and well-rested for the spelling test after recess.



### Bren Cargill

With March Madness kicking off today, people everywhere are making their brackets and are

starting to wonder who's going to walk away the champion. The answer this year, even more than past years, is NCAA. This year is being branded as arguably the weakest tournament ever.

With traditional powers like UCLA, UCONN, Indiana, and last year's champion North Carolina all absent from the tournament, numerous upsets are sure to come, meaning the quality of basketball and excitement of involving big schools already isn't there.

America's top collegiate athletics body is currently in the middle of an 11-year contract with CBS that will pay them a total of \$6 billion for the rights to broadcast the tournament, not including merchandise sales, advertising revenues, and attendance income.

The NCAA is going to come out smiling by once again raking in huge amounts of cash pushing what, by all accounts this year, will be a sub-par product that America and basketball lovers everywhere will open their wallets up to as usual.



### Nathan Liewicki

The 2006 version of March Madness saw the 11th-seeded George Mason Patriots, a member of the Colonial Athletic Association, make the most improbable run to the Final Four in NCAA history. Four years later, Indianapolis will again host the Final Four, and again an unlikely team will be a part of the action on championship weekend.

Although the Patriots failed to earn a bid into this year's tournament field, there is another 11th seed who will bring back memories of their Cinderella run — the Old Dominion Monarchs.

Also from the Colonial Athletic Association, ODU enters the NCAA tournament as heavy underdogs and are not expected to get past the Daum/Csorba beloved Fighting Irish in the first round, let alone all the way to Indy.

I might be banking on a lot of karma, but knowing that ODU marched into D.C. and held off mighty Georgetown in mid-December has made me believe that they will topple the best in college basketball and capture NCAA supremacy.



### Evan Daum

While my prediction is far from bold given the nature of those who have written before me, here it is: Baylor.

Let me break it down for you in comparison to the other prognosticators who came before me. Notre Dame has about as good of a chance of winning March Madness as their football team has of winning the BCS national title next season (while I'm an Irish fan, I'm also a realist). While I love the underdog as much as the next guy, Lake Bonavista was downed in the first round of Alberta provincials (not to mention the fact they aren't an NCAA team). The NCAA isn't even a team, and Old Dominion couldn't get past a bunch of oldies playing pickup down at the local senior centre.

Heck, I don't even have to give any reasons to make my prediction the best of the bunch so far — the people before me did the work for me.

But since a wise Photo Editor named Pete Yee is sure to make an intelligent prediction after me — I know this because I've already read his entry — I will backup my claim with a small helping of support.

Playing in the weak South Region, the Bears fly in under the radar slightly

with a number-three seed, yet have a number of quality wins under their belt.

Having downed a talented yet underachieving Texas team three times this season, and a very good Xavier team out of the Atlantic 10 conference, Baylor has the potential to surprise.



### Pete Yee

Year after year, I stare intently at my March Madness bracket looking for that elusive Cinderella team to rack up some dollars in pool play. So far, it has resulted in more disappointment than my pockets can handle.

For the 2010 edition of the NCAA tourney, I will have to go with the polls and pick the boys sporting the blue and crimson from the Big 12 — the Kansas Jayhawks.

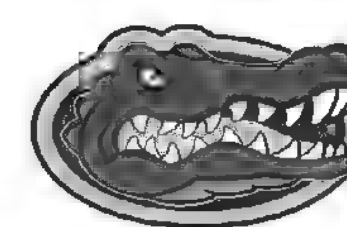
I will boldly predict that the 'Hawks will have an easy road to the grand prize even though they are playing in the ultra-competitive Midwest. I say this because the teams seeded in this region, as of late, have been sporadic. Each of the seeds have taken turns losing to a barrage of underdogs, including the talent-laden Georgetown Hoyas.

Is this the start of the backstage jitters? With a handful of double-digit seeds looking to make it into the history books, we'll soon find out.

Everybody else reading this is probably ready to rip me a new one already since the Midwest is loaded with talent this year. I say this — deal with it. Kansas has been untouchable this year, and is stacked with NBA-ready prospects led by the trio of Cole Aldrich, Sherron Collins, and Xavier Henry. They're also among the top 10 in every offensive category this year. This is en route to a 32-2 record with losses only to Tennessee and Oklahoma State.

Once you move out of the Midwest, the only other real contender is Kentucky. However, I will quickly discount the Wildcats courtesy of the freshman superstars. I do not think they will have the mental toughness to push through the Elite 8.

So there you have it; the first year I have ever picked a consensus number one to win it all. But for history's sake, I will throw out that the Cornell Big Red will have the potential to play spoiler this year.



### Sarah Stead

Whenever diving headfirst into a sport you never follow, there are few simple rules to observe to ensure you're rooting for the winning team. Sure, some people will steadfastly follow the home team, or, failing that, the team of the next closest town, but if you really want to know who to save your cheers for, simply pick the team with the most vicious sounding animal name.

For the NCAA men's tournament, my money's on the Florida Gators, or any team named after a wildcat. Minnesota's Golden Gophers, the Syracuse Orangemen, and the Temple Owls clearly fail at names, hence, will also fail in the games. As for the Mean Green from North Texas, well, from experience, green tends to make me want to eat baked goods and have a nap, not win a basketball game.

A tough-sounding name is paramount in a team's success on the field, the court, or the ice. Maybe this is why the Oilers never win.



## Hockey Bears' captain Tyler Metcalfe looking to go out with another title

NATHAN LIEWICKI  
Sports Staff

Looking to lead his team to their third University Cup victory in five seasons, ice Bears captain Tyler Metcalfe has always had a strong passion for hockey.

Born and raised in Headingley, Manitoba, Metcalfe remembers growing up and playing hockey whenever and wherever possible.

"In the winter, all my time was spent at the outdoor rink. And in addition to practices and games with the teams I was on, I played pickup anywhere around town with all of my buddies."

His love of the game eventually led him south of the border, where he was drafted by the WHL's Seattle Thunderbirds. During his five seasons playing under the eye of the Space Needle, Metcalfe tallied 93 goals and 249 points, but was never drafted by an NHL club.

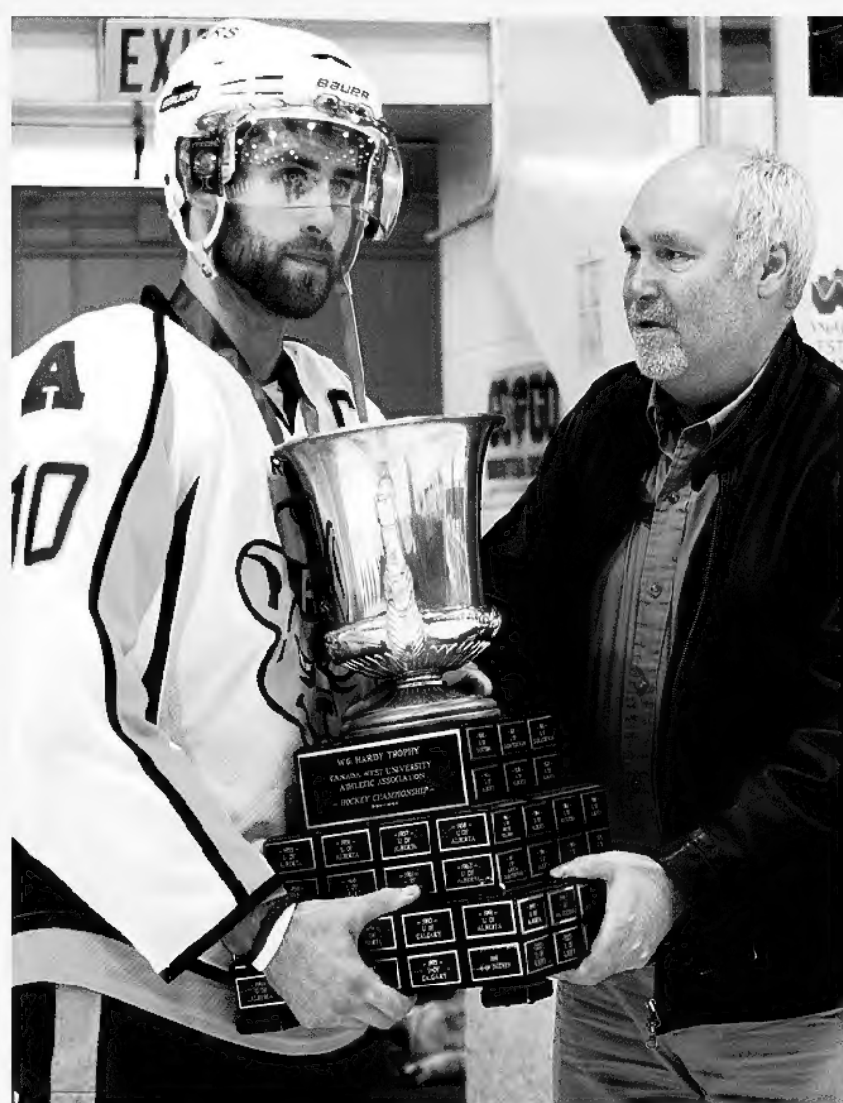
"I always had the NHL dream. I came close coming out of junior with a couple of camp try-outs," said Metcalfe.

"I would have to spend a lot of time in the minors to get a chance. So I came to university on the grounds that I get a degree and play high level hockey for five years, but then I'd go and pursue a professional career after," Metcalfe explained.

With his CIS eligibility set to expire after the upcoming national championship, the Physical Education & Recreation student once again has his sights set on playing hockey professionally.

"I'm definitely going to play hockey somewhere next year. I don't know exactly where yet, but I'll worry about that after this season is done," Metcalfe said. "There is Europe and also leagues in Asia, so there are numerous possibilities out there."

His main goal now, however, is to finish his tenure with the Bears in style. Metcalfe may have



DANIELLE JENSON

**INTO THE SUNSET** Tyler Metcalfe will be look to cap off his collegiate career on top.

been a part of two previous championship teams, but the hunger to win still burns deep within.

When asked what a third title in five years would mean to him, Metcalfe responded, "It would mean the world. It's been a very exciting year and I've just wanted to take in everything in my last year."

"This program and this school have been so good to me, and to have the Cup again for fun summer partying would be the icing on the cake. It would be unbelievably awesome."

Metcalfe may not boast the offensive numbers that some of his teammates do — 17 regular season goals in five seasons — yet this scrappy left-winger has always been a versatile team player for the Bears, and his character and presence in the locker room will be sorely missed next fall.

## LOOKING FOR YOUR HOCKEY FIX?

The Gateway will have full coverage of the 2010 CIS men's hockey nationals from Thunder Bay, Ontario starting next Tuesday in print, and continuing all week online.

There will be: daily recaps online beginning Wednesday after the awards ceremony, continuing all the way through Championship Sunday.

There will also be exclusive audio content online, and you can follow Sports Editor Evan Daum on Twitter (evandaum) for up to the minute coverage.



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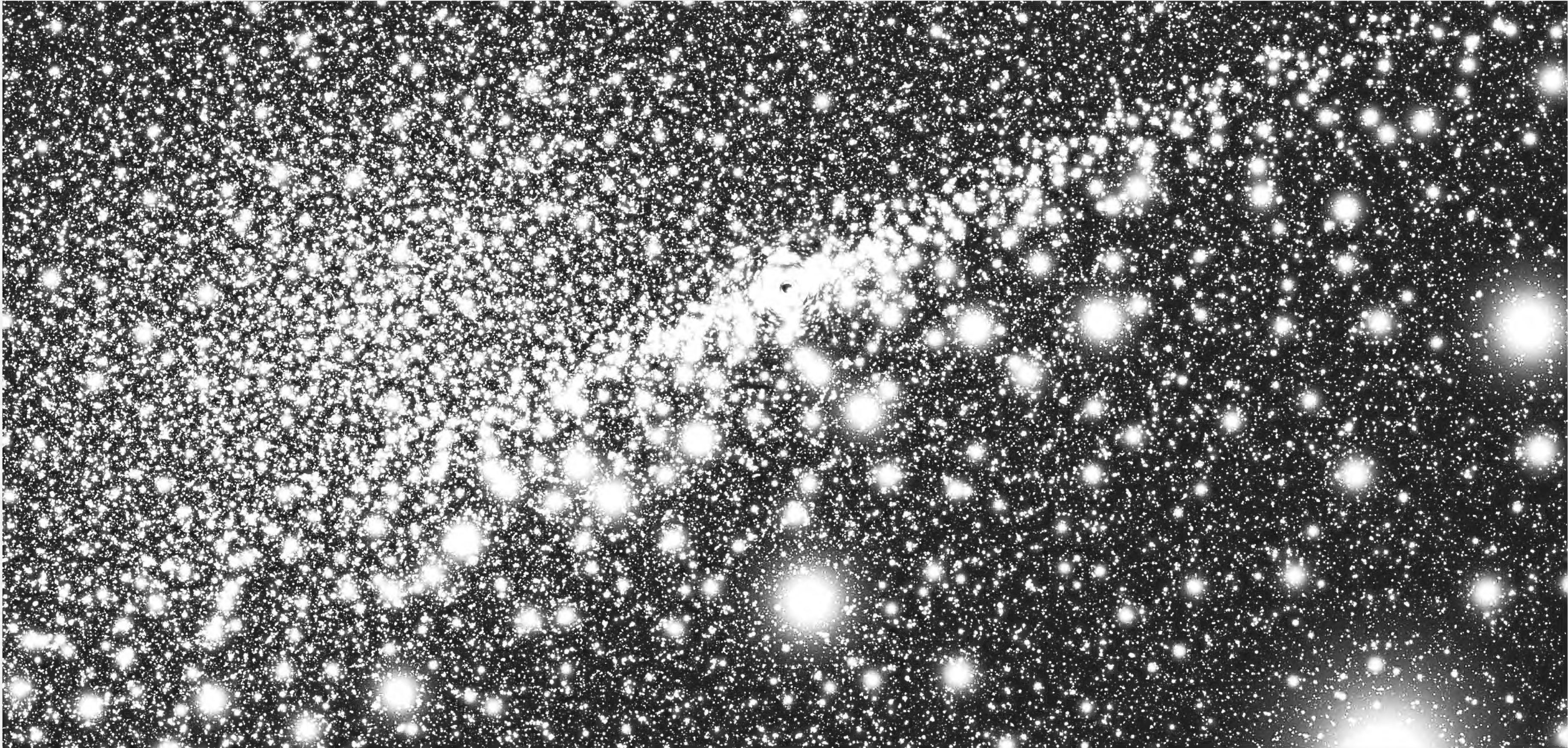


INDY RANDHAWA

**PULLING A BRITNEY SPEARS** The Kappa Alpha Theta sorority members were happy to shave the heads of guys from Farmhouse Frat in Totally Baldacious to raise funds in support of cancer research.

astronowatch

by Kati Kovacs



Sung to the tune of “Hot Town, Summer In The City” by The Lovin’ Spoonful

Cold times spent outside the city / Back of my neck getting’ chilly and gritty / Kneel down, put on your mitties / Wouldn’t I be much warmer in the city?

All around, bison looking well fed / Walking in the forest, colder than the living dead

But at night, it’s a different world /

Set up the ‘scope and catch a squirrel / Come-on, come-on and observe all night / Just look at the stars, it’ll be alright

And babe, don’t you know it’s a pity / That the stars just can’t be as twinkling, / In the summer, in the city / In the summer, in the city

Yes, I survived winter camping. I petted a deformed squirrel, ate marshmallows, and saw the resplendent night sky. We took our scope out and managed to see Mars,

Saturn, Venus, the Orion Nebula, and the Andromeda Galaxy. If you have the chance this spring, before it starts getting too light out, make the trip to Elk Island one clear night. You won’t regret it.

*AstronoWatch is a weekly feature that covers the goings-on in the night skies, the galaxy, and sometimes even Kati’s personal life. Keep up with Astronowatch online at [thegatewayonline.ca/astronowatch](http://thegatewayonline.ca/astronowatch) or check out the FABservatory’s site at [www.phys.ualberta.ca/observatory](http://www.phys.ualberta.ca/observatory)*

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FOR SALE

Lease to own executive 2 Storey 1993 Home

in Garneau, 1771 SF, 3+1 brm, 3.5 bths, pictures & info at [www.dnares.ca](http://www.dnares.ca) or 780-328-1094

EMPLOYMENT - FULL TIME

Local Landscaping Co. looking for enthusiastic hardworking individuals to perform various landscaping duties. Must have a valid drivers license and transportation. \$15 - 20 per hour. 780-903-6066

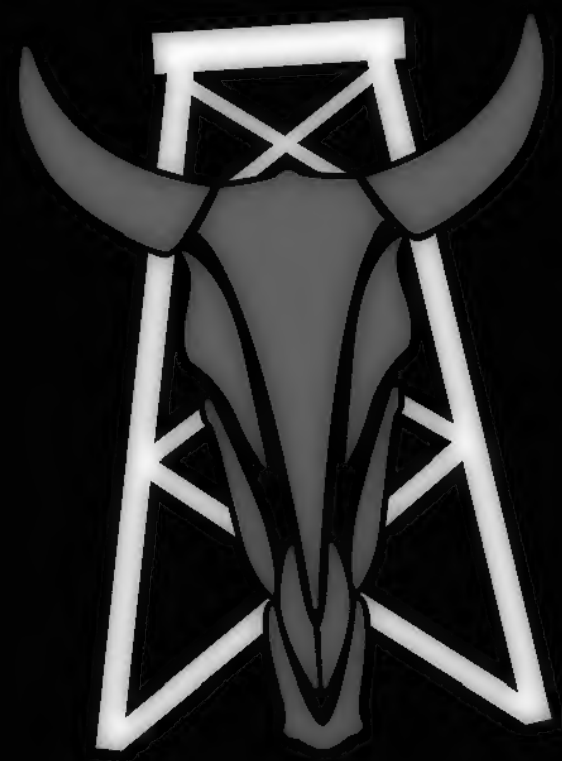
VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Volunteers needed to teach ESL to adult newcomers. Downtown, classroom teaching, 2-3 hours/wk. Materials provided. Gain teaching experience and meet people from around the world. Contact CCI-LEX at [lexprogram@cci-lex.ca](mailto:lexprogram@cci-lex.ca).

AND FINALLY

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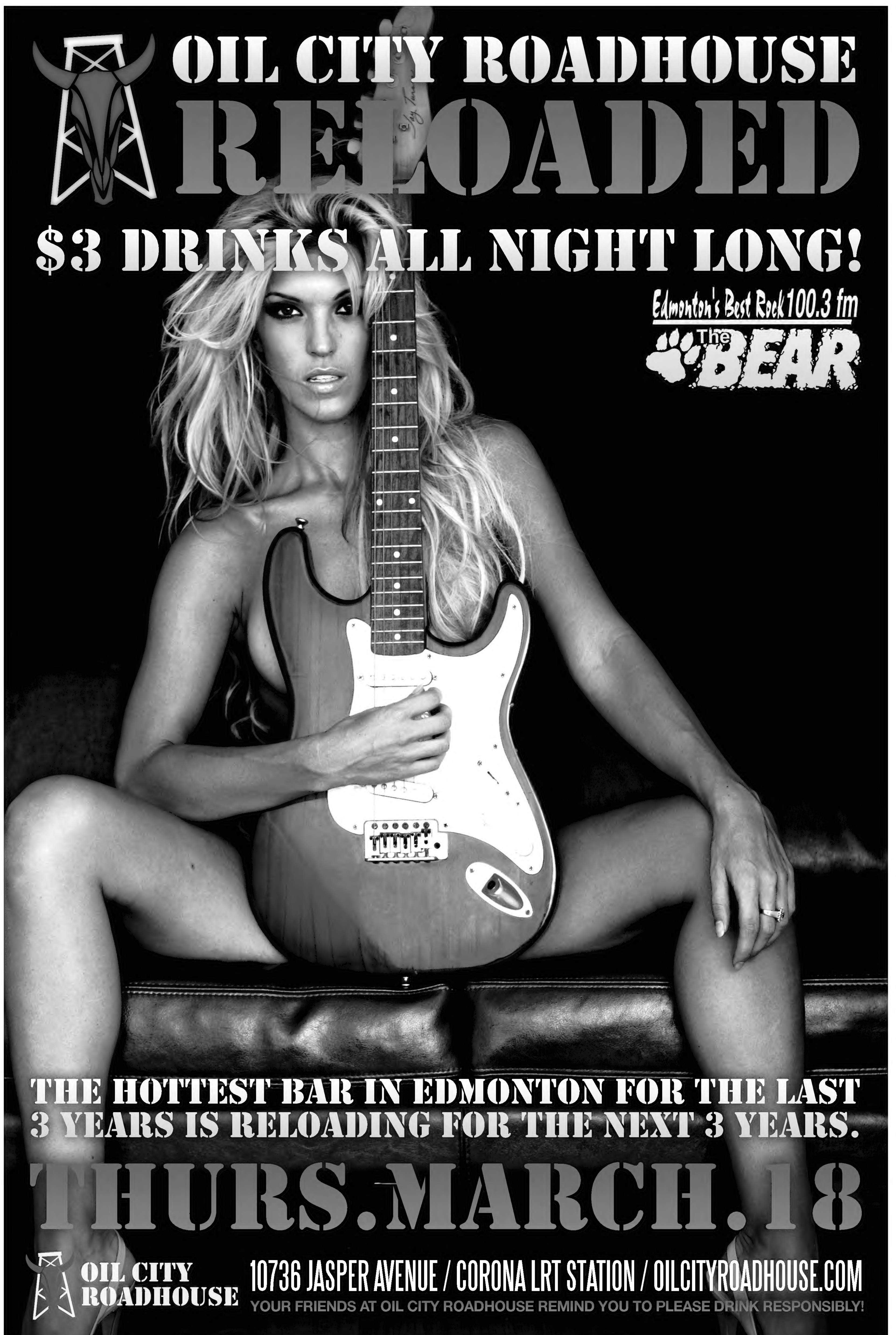




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